EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

SUPREME COURT OF VIRGINIA

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HUMAN RESOURCES
RENÉE FLEMING MILLS, DIRECTOR



#### OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

100 NORTH NINTH STREET RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219-2334 (804) 786-6455

December 5, 2023

The Honorable John S. Edwards Co-Chair, Judiciary Committee Senate of Virginia P.O. Box 1179 Roanoke, VA 24006-1179

The Honorable R. Creigh Deeds Co-Chair, Judiciary Committee Senate of Virginia P.O. Box 5462 Charlottesville, VA 22905-5462

The Honorable Leslie R. Adams Vice Chair, Courts of Justice Committee Virginia House of Delegates P.O. Box K, 4 North Main Street Chatham, VA 24531

Robyn M. de Socio Executive Secretary Compensation Board P.O. Box 710 Richmond, VA 23218

Dear Chairs Edwards and Deeds, Vice Chair Adams, and Ms. de Socio:

Virginia Code § 17.1-507 provides that no additional circuit court judge shall be authorized or provided for any judicial circuit until the Judicial Council has made a study of the need for such additional circuit court judge and reports its findings and recommendations. In 2017, the Executive Committee of the Judicial Council adopted the National Center for State Courts' report and recommendations contained in the 2017 Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment Report. Based on the recommendations made in the Report, the number of judicial

JUDICIAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

JUDICIAL SERVICES
PAUL F DELOSH, DIRECTOR

LEGAL RESEARCH STEVEN L. DALLE MURA, DIRECTOR

LEGISLATIVE & PUBLIC RELATIONS
ALISA W. PADDEN, DIRECTOR

MAGISTRATE SERVICES JONATHAN E. GREEN, DIRECTOR Report pursuant to Virginia Code § 17.1-507 December 4, 2023 Page Two

positions in the circuits authorized in Va. Code § 17.1-507 was amended and became effective July 1, 2018. Additionally, the General Assembly authorized one new circuit court judgeship in the Thirty-First Judicial Circuit of Virginia, effective July 1, 2022.

The Judicial Council recommends the authorization of one additional judgeship each in the First Judicial Circuit, Ninth Judicial Circuit, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, and Twenty-Fifth Judicial Circuit.

Please find enclosed the Judgeship Requests provided by the 1st Judicial Circuit, 9th Judicial Circuit, 15th Judicial Circuit, 25th Judicial Circuit, and considered and approved by the Judicial Council on October 17, 2023. Also enclosed, please find a report of current and announced authorized judicial vacancies in the district and circuit courts as of December 1, 2023.

With best wishes, I am,

Very truly yours,

KIZH

Karl R. Hade

KRH:jrs

Enclosure

## **2023 Judgeship Requests**

Pre-COVID			Recent Workload (July 2020> July 2023)											
3 Year Workload		3 Year Workload 2 Year Workload		1 Year Wo	1 Year Workload 2023 Projection									
										based on 7	Months			
	Start Date	January	2017	July 2020 July 2021		021	July 2	022	January	2023				
End Date December 2019		er 2019	June 2023 June 2023		June 2	2023	July 2023							
	Ni	Workloa	ad Per	Worklo	ad Per	Workloa	ad Per	Workloa	ad Per	Worklo	ad Per			
	Number	Judg	ge	Jud	ge	Judg	ze	Judg	ze	Jud	ge	Po	pulation	
	of Current		Plus 1		Plus 1		Plus 1		Plus 1		Plus 1		•	
Circuit	Judges	Current	Judge	Current	Judge	Current	Judge	Current	Judge	Current	Judge	2010	2022	%Change
1	5	1.26	1.05	1.13	0.94	1.11	0.93	1.19	0.99	1.22	1.02	222,209	251,959	13.4%
9	4	1.16	0.93	1.09	0.87	1.07	0.86	1.12	0.89	1.11	0.89	251,623	281,392	11.8%
15	11	1.16	1.07	1.01	0.93	0.99	0.91	1.04	0.95	1.11	1.02	489,216	569,345	16.4%
25	6	1.11	0.95	1	0.86	1.01	0.86	1.02	0.87	1.08	0.93	209,099	214,989	2.8%

Judge Day and Year Values								
Judge Need by Weighted	Filings x Case Weig							
Caseload	Judge Year Value	e (minutes)						
Later West Well of July 1994	Single	Multi						
Judge Year Value (minutes)	<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Jurisdiction</u>						
Circuit	75,168	71,280						
General District	71,280	67,392						
Juvenile & Domestic Relations	71,280	67,392						

Example of Calculation of Judicial Need - 5th Circuit							
	Filings	х	Case Weig (minutes)	ghts	Workload (minutes)		
Capital Murder	2	х	867	=	1,734		
Non-Capital Felonies and Related Matters	3,196	X	45	=	143,820		
Misdemeanor	952	х	10	=	9,520		
Other Criminally Related Matters	315	Х	26	=	8,190		
Administrative Law	8	Х	49	=	392		
Contested Divorce	155	Х	95	=	14,725		
Uncontested Divorce	370	Х	12	=	4,440		
Domestic and Family - Level 1	74	Х	103	=	7,622		
Domestic and Family - Level 2	125	X	64	=	8,000		
General Civil - Level 1	14	Х	544	=	7,616		
General Civil - Level 2	296	Х	64	=	18,944		
General Civil - Level 3	157	Х	51	=	8,007		
Probates/Wills and Trusts - Level 1	3	х	289	=	867		
Probates/Wills and Trusts - Level 2	42	Х	25	=	1,050		
Protective Orders	19	Х	45	=	855		
Miscellaneous	3,137	Х	2	=	6,274		
	8,865				242,056		

## FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF VIRGINIA

JUDGES

MARJORIE A. TAYLOR ARRINGTON, CHIEF JUDGE
RUFUS A. BANKS, JR.
STEPHEN J. TELFEYAN
ROBERT G. MACDONALD
ANDREW D. KUBOVCIK



307 ALBEMARLE DRIVE, SUITE 400A CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA 23322-5580 757-382-3050 FAX NOS. 757-382-3080 / 757-382-3090

September 29, 2023

The Honorable S. Bernard Goodwyn, Chief Justice Judicial Council of Virginia 100 North 9th Street Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Chief Justice Goodwyn and Members of the Judicial Council:

The judges of the First Judicial Circuit, encompassing the City of Chesapeake, are of the opinion that there is a need for an additional judgeship to accommodate an overwhelming caseload and a burgeoning population.

Chesapeake is a first-class city with a population of 252,488, making it the second largest city in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Over the past three years, the city has seen its population increase from 249,415 and it is expected to reach 272,670 by 2030.

Currently, there are five judges on the bench. An additional judge would ensure equitable access to justice for the ever-increasing population in the number of cases filed that come before the Chesapeake Circuit Court.

The Court hopes that you and the Council look favorably on our request for an additional judgeship and find that it is merited upon consideration of the attached report. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely Yours,

Rufus A. Banks, Jr.

Judge, Chesapeake Circuit Court

### CHESAPEAKE CIRCUIT COURT

### First Judicial Circuit of Virginia

The Honorable Marjorie A. Taylor Arrington, Chief Judge
The Honorable Rufus A. Banks, Jr., Judge
The Honorable Stephen J. Telfeyan, Judge
The Honorable Robert G. MacDonald, Judge
The Honorable Andrew D. Kubovcik, Judge

### REQUEST FOR AN ADDITIONAL JUDGE

#### Presented to

THE HONORABLE S. BERNARD GOODWYN, CHIEF JUSTICE

and

THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA

October 2023

## CHESAPEAKE CIRCUIT COURT First Judicial Circuit of Virginia

#### Request for Additional Judge

The Chesapeake Circuit Court requires the installation of a sixth judge to meet the needs of its current and upward trending caseload. Due to a change in the law, a surge in population growth, and new demands on the Court's time and resources, the five judgeships currently in place are burdened with the caseload of six judges, causing the total disposition of cases to decrease, while total case filings increase.

The City of Chesapeake has seen substantial population and economic growth. Chesapeake's population has risen by almost 17% since 2005 to 252,488, making it the second-largest city in the Commonwealth. This growth is forecasted to continue, with the population expected to reach 272,670 by 2030. With the expanding population has also come expansion in economic development. Since 2003, Chesapeake's employment growth rate has ranked among the top 50 nationally. Chesapeake's Gross Domestic Product has risen by 12%, adjusted for inflation, over a ten-year period. The growth in population and economic development are both prominent amongst those variables that have triggered a growing caseload in the Chesapeake Circuit Court, which is now one of the circuit courts with the highest number of case filings and dispositions per recent terms.

Recent statistics show that the Chesapeake Circuit Court is receiving and disposing of cases in a disproportionately high number, calculated against the number of sitting judges, when compared to other circuit courts. Filings in the Chesapeake Circuit Court for January through August 2023 increased substantially to 13,017, from 11,995 for the corresponding period of 2022, while filings for the Commonwealth as a whole decreased from 285,086 to 223,919 during the same period. Similarly situated courts experienced the following: The Second Judicial Circuit of Virginia, served by eight judges, comprising Virginia Beach Circuit Court (10,648), Northampton Circuit Court (874), and Accomack Circuit Court (1,301), experienced a slight decline in filings across the same periods. Richmond Circuit Court (8,417), served by five judges, experienced a slight increase in filings. Prince William Circuit Court (14,365) and Norfolk Circuit Court (14,914) each served by seven judges, experienced slight declines. Chesterfield Circuit Court (14,690) and Colonial Heights Circuit Court (981) of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, Newport News Circuit Court (7,466), and Henrico Circuit Court (11,825), respectively served by five judges, experienced an increase in filings.

In the term of January through August 2023, the Chesapeake Circuit Court disposed of 12,924 cases, which ranks among the highest in the Commonwealth. The only similar circuit courts with a higher number of disposed cases during that term were the Twelfth Judicial Circuit with Chesterfield Circuit Court (14,528) and the Colonial Heights Circuit Court (988), which has six sitting judges and the Norfolk Circuit Court (15,891) which has seven sitting judges. Some circuit courts with

similar, but lower, numbers of case dispositions have more sitting judges than the Chesapeake Circuit Court: Virginia Beach Circuit Court (10,562), Northampton Circuit Court (876), and Accomack Circuit Court (1,081) with eight sitting judges in the Second Judicial Circuit, Richmond Circuit Court (8,257) with seven sitting judges, and Prince William Circuit Court (11,982) with seven sitting judges. Newport News Circuit Court (6,512), with the same number of judges as the Chesapeake Circuit Court (five) disposed of substantially fewer cases. Henrico Circuit Court (11,300), likewise with five judges, disposed of slightly fewer cases.

However, despite these disproportionate efforts of the five presiding judges and retired judges sitting by designation, dispositions in the Chesapeake Circuit Court are trending down, from 13,312 in January 2022 through August 2022, to 12,924 from January 2023 through August 2023, reflecting the increased time and involvement required to conclude matters.

Though the statistics vary slightly over different years and variables, all variations have a common theme: the Chesapeake Circuit Court is over-tasked, given the number of judges and the growing population in the City of Chesapeake. Greater still, those population records have had an upward trend of 12.25% between 2010 and 2020. A further increasing population will greatly affect the difficult task of providing timely justice to all parties.

Currently, the Chesapeake Circuit Court is compelled to call on retired judges to cover trials and hearings as substitute judges, almost daily. Consistency regarding case adjudication and disposition is best served by a presiding judge of the court, rather than a carousel of retired judges serving as substitutes, whose availability is often limited and inconsistent. The result is a frequent imposition on the good graces of those retired judges and additional efforts to communicate about cases. The inefficiencies innate to filling a permanent vacancy with many temporary substitutes is evidenced by the downward trend in case dispositions during an upward trend of population and case filings. The frequent requests Chesapeake must make to bring in substitute judges is a temporary solution where a permanent judgeship is needed.

This vacancy is not without consequence. Despite judges spending long hours on the bench, cases are still routinely continued to later dates or handled by substitute judges, due to the Court's overloaded dockets. Furthermore, the priority that must be provided to criminal matters results in civil cases being scheduled far in the future, relegated on the docket, and often continued. This issue is amplified by the fact that the dockets in the Chesapeake Circuit Court are approximately 72% criminal and 28% civil. Of the civil cases, approximately 18% are contested divorces, which are often complex, involving equitable distribution, and can take multiple days.

There are additional demands on the Court's current resources. The highly successful drug treatment court docket accounts for one full day's docket per week, not including ancillary matters associated therewith (i.e., personnel meetings). The Court is further preparing to explore a specialty behavioral/mental health docket in order to provide a continuum of services and avenues currently available only in the

Chesapeake General District Court given the number of cases that involve mental health-related issues that many times are precursors to alleged criminal behavior.

The recent change in legislation allowing for judge sentencing in criminal jury trials has further exacerbated the caseload problem because a judge presiding over a jury trial cannot dispose of any other cases while engaged in the jury trial. This Court feels the effect of the legislative change much more than many other circuits due to the high percentage of criminal cases (approximately three-fourths of the Court's docket). While the number of civil jury trials has remained fairly consistent, the number of criminal juries empaneled has more than tripled since the legislative sentencing change. This is not sustainable and results in overcrowded dockets, backlog, and civil cases being bumped from the docket and continued.

In the calculation of judicial need, the caseload for a judge is 75,168 minutes per year; for July 2022 through June 2023, the Chesapeake Circuit Court Judges worked 119% of this time, and this is projected to be 122% for 2023. This amount has historically exceeded 100% since 2017. Even with the addition of another Judge, the six Chesapeake Judges would have a workload of 102% in 2023. Although the Court is still disposing of an impressive number of cases, a permanent judgeship would alleviate the strain on an over-tasked bench, create consistency throughout matters, and ensure that all cases are timely and efficiently heard.

Courts

HOLLY B. SMITH
5201 Monticello Avenue, Suite 1
Williamsburg, Virginia 23188
757-564-2300

### Commonwealth of Virginia

NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

JAMES CITY COUNTY
CITY OF WILLIAMSBURG



September 12, 2023

Re: Request for Additional Judgeships for the 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Meeting of the Judicial Council, October 17, 2023

Dear Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to present our perspective in support of the request for additional judicial assistance for the Ninth Judicial Circuit. The Ninth Judicial Circuit consists of the counties of Charles City, Gloucester, James City, King and Queen, King William, Mathews, Middlesex, New Kent, and York, and the Cities of Williamsburg and Poquoson. I hope to present to you that the current number of judges is insufficient to resolve the cases effectively and efficiently before the Court. I am grateful for your attention to this crucial matter and appreciate that your time is precious. Thus, in an effort to present the information succinctly, in each instance where studies, statistics and documentation are offered as Exhibits here, I have endeavored to provide the most relevant portions of some rather voluminous documents or the sources by footnotes. I am happy to provide the complete texts and reports should you desire.

#### Judicial Workload (See Exhibit A)

The 2017 Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment (hereinafter the "Assessment") indicated a need of a 4.32 FTE (full-time equivalent) compared to the 4 current judges. Since then, the workload per judge has changed and steadily increased in some key areas. There were 3,360 new filings per judge at the time of study. Over the years, the new filings have grown and the new filings per judge have reached

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment, National Center for State Courts, 2017, page 29.

2,233 this year, and that was only as of June 2023. New filings per judge, then, will be expected to approach 5,000 per judge this year.

The context of how this compares to other jurisdictions across the Commonwealth is important to consider. Between July 2020 and the present, the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit was the highest in the state for civil filings per judge. With criminal filings the twelfth highest in the state, we are #2 in overall filings per judge. In fact, when considered annually since 2017, the filings per judge are the highest of all circuits each year and every year since. As of August 2023, the current workload ranking for the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit is #4 out of all circuits. This is up from #6 in years 2017-2019.

According to the Assessment, "when the workload per judge is greater than or equal to 1.15 FTE, there is a need for *one or more* additional judicial positions." Below are the judicial workloads of our judges:

Williamsburg and James City County	1.16
York County and City of Poquoson	1.10
Gloucester, Mathews, Middlesex	1.12
New Kent, King William, King & Queen,	
Charles City County	0.88

According to the Assessment, Courts like York and the Middle Peninsula groups, that are near the threshold, benefit from an analysis of additional contextual factors. For example, some of our workload is impacted by complex multi-day divorce and family litigation and multi-day equitable distribution hearings. While the state average might be closer to an hour and a half, this is not the experience in this Circuit. The average household income for the two largest counties, James City County and York County, for example, is over \$100,000. With more assets come more complex litigation and require more time of the judge both in and out of court.

Further, Williamsburg has multiple mental health facilities requiring lengthy and complex hearings on involuntary commitments and judicial authorization for treatment hearings. These necessitate testimony from multiple fact and expert witnesses.

Additionally, extra travel demands are a significant consideration that the Assessment suggests should be taken into consideration. The 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit is comprised of nine counties and two cities, some more than an hour away from the other, and is covered by four judges. Two of the judges cover seven of those counties, as each county has their own court. It is common for the presiding judge to be the only Circuit Court judge in the building without the benefit of other judges or law clerks for assistance. It is impossible for these judges to share dockets without depriving smaller jurisdictions of the few days they are allotted for court.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment, National Center for State Courts, 2017, page 27.

Looking at it another way, using Williamsburg again as an example, our caseload is similar to some of our sister courts that enjoy multiple judges and law clerks.

#### <u>Use of Retired Substitute Judges</u> (See Exhibit B)

In an effort to manage the current caseload and to not add to the current backlog of cases, our jurisdictions have utilized local retired substitute judges to cover dockets. The Gloucester County, York County and Williamsburg / James City County Courthouses have the benefit of having a second Circuit courtroom and some have additional small hearing rooms. Williamsburg has the largest caseload in the 9th, and its numbers are presented here simply as an example. Frequently, in Williamsburg, two dockets are scheduled simultaneously, and, at times, additional civil dockets are scheduled in an extra General District courtroom. The number of dockets presided over by substitute judges in Williamsburg, for example, have been:

FY21	103	
FY22	154	
FY23	120*	*As of the end of March 2023 only. This includes an estimated 29 days utilized for settlement conferences. <sup>3</sup>

From January 1, 2022 to December 21, 2022, the 9th Circuit utilized a total number of 236 substitute judge dates. 4 Obviously, some jurisdictions utilize substitute judges to cover dockets when the presiding judge is on vacation or to hear conflict cases, among other reasons. However, the number of substitute judge dates we utilize in the 9th is significant in that it clearly goes beyond such occasional needs and demonstrates the general workload needs. This round robin of judges is really challenging for litigants for myriad reasons. The litigants on complex cases need the consistency of the same judge ruling on various stages of litigation. Often, that is simply not possible. This creates a risk of inconsistent rulings and fundamental unfairness to litigants.

#### <u>Jury Stacking</u> (See Exhibit C)

Another tool that the judges have employed to try to mitigate the backlog and the demand for juries is jury stacking. Many of us no longer permit the scheduling of a single jury on a day. Several judges are utilizing a few variations of "stacking" juries, a strategy not typical for jurisdictions of this size and single judge courthouses. Some judges in the 9th stack multiple criminal juries and civil juries on a given set of dates. For example, in Williamsburg, three criminal juries and one civil jury are "stacked" to guarantee the use of the dates. Thus, if one of the juries pleads, one is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Substitute Retired Judges Court Utilization Report, Supreme Court Fiscal Department, March 2023.

<sup>4</sup> Utilization of Retired Recalled Circuit Judges, State of the Judiciary Report, December 2022.

continued or otherwise resolved, etc., the day is still utilized by some jury. Any remaining juries are continued to another date. Some of our judges are stacking regular civil dockets behind the juries and bumping or re-scheduling the entire civil dockets if the juries go forward. Some of our judges are scheduling more than one jury in two separate jurisdictions, knowing that only one can go forward with a single judge. None of these are remotely perfect solutions and frequently result in continuances for some litigants. However, in each of the instances, the situation of the resolution of a single jury scheduled does not result in wasted days.

## Overall Growth (See Exhibit D)

According to the University of Virginia's Weldon Cooper Center, many of our jurisdictions are growing and are expected to continue growing. One of our jurisdictions, New Kent County, had the second largest increase in population during the 2017 workload study.<sup>5</sup> In fact, New Kent County is now the fastest growing county in the Commonwealth.<sup>6</sup> Williamsburg, James City County, and York County have all realized steady population increases. The 9th is one of the only Circuits that has had nearly universal growth since 2020 and is predicted to continue with such trends.<sup>7</sup> With population growth, obviously, comes growth in the need for access to justice.

Each of our fellow court system stakeholders such as clerks, sheriff's offices, and prosecutor's offices, have grown in personnel over the years in response to such demands. As an example, the York County Commonwealth's Attorney's office has grown from 2 prosecutors to 9 prosecutors and adding several paralegals and support staff. Williamsburg / James City County Commonwealth's Attorney's office has grown from 2 part-time prosecutors to 7 full-time attorneys, adding several paralegals and support staff. Gloucester's has grown to 6, and the number of Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court judges in the 9th also grew by 1. However, in the past 25 plus years, the number of Circuit Court judges has remained at 4.

#### **Future Challenges and Goals**

The 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit is the only Circuit without a drug treatment court or behavioral health docket. We are committed to implementing such a crucial resource for our citizens. While these dockets are, without question, worthwhile, the very nature of these dockets requires significant time and resources. We have begun the process of meeting with various stakeholders to plan these specialty dockets and to begin drafting such grant applications. However, it is uncertain how

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment, National Center for State Courts, 2017, page 40.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Lombard, Hamilton, Weldon Cooper Center, <a href="https://statchatva.org/2023/01/30/after-a-decade-of-slow-growth-many-of-virginias-exurbs-are-booming-again/">https://statchatva.org/2023/01/30/after-a-decade-of-slow-growth-many-of-virginias-exurbs-are-booming-again/</a> (last visited September 5, 2023).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> https://demographics.coopercenter.org/virginia-population-projections, Weldon Cooper Center, (last visited September 5, 2023).

we will be able to meet the burden of the additional behavioral health court dockets. The typical weekly frequency of dockets, of course, is critical to the success of any specialty treatment docket. We are committed to this success but docket time as a resource is severely limited to say the least. In fact, given the current time constraints of the dockets, it has been necessary to schedule meetings and work sessions in the evenings. These worthy endeavors must, for now, take second place to the workload of the normal circuit court dockets.

There are a host of non-case-related activities<sup>8</sup> that the Assessment recognizes as necessary, and we share as goals, but seem virtually unattainable in the 9<sup>th</sup>. Activities such as reading journals, professional newsletters and review of appellate court decisions are shortchanged, at best. And while the Assessment contemplates that judges will include routine breaks and lunches, anecdotally, lunch breaks are a novelty. While the desire to participate in public outreach and community service is a desired goal of the Assessment, judges are spending evenings and weekends reviewing cases, pleadings, and uncontested divorces for compliance with the law, to name a few examples.

## Support of Stakeholders (See Exhibit E)

To strengthen our request, we have included letters of support from just a few of our stakeholders.

Liz Parman, President, Williamsburg Bar Association Rodney Hathaway, New Kent County Administrator Krystyn L. Reid, Commonwealth's Attorney for York County and the City of Poquoson Michael B. Ware, Esquire, Schempf & Ware

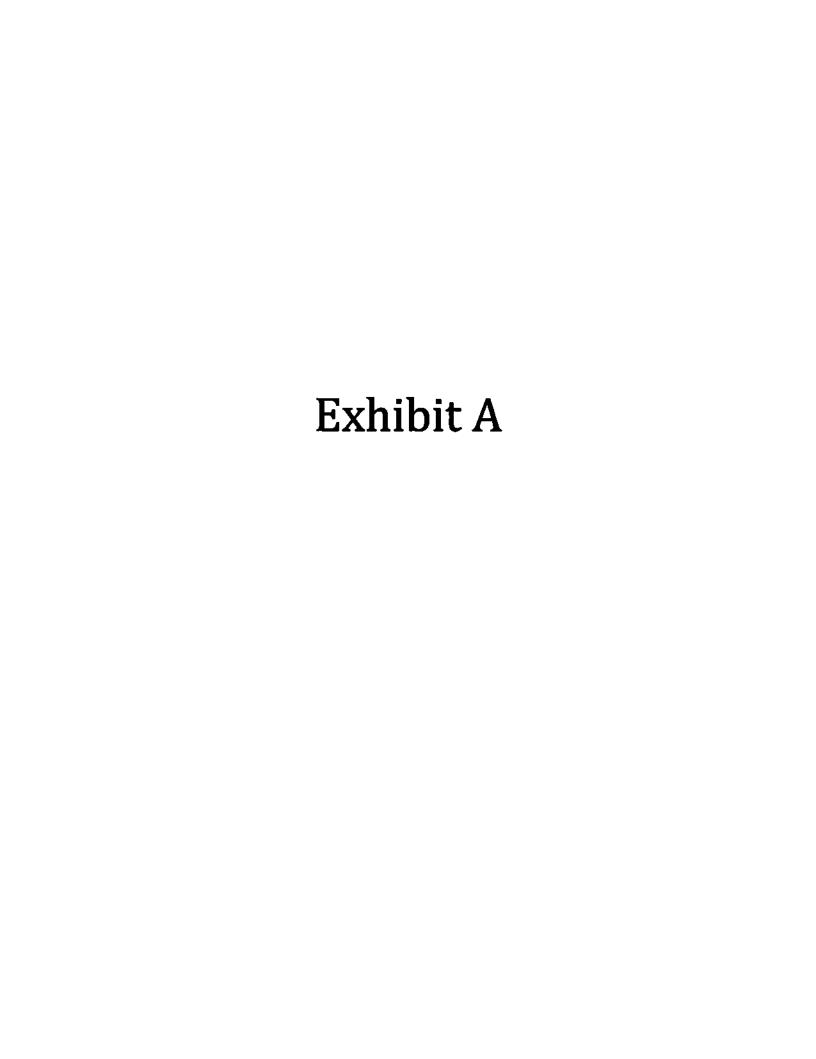
Thank you again for the opportunity to offer some brief considerations here that render our Circuit in need of an additional judgeship, given our workload, unique contextual factors, our attempts thus far to manage the load effectively thus far, the continuing growth of our communities, and the goals we strive to achieve. I trust I have demonstrated our unwavering commitment to the efficient management of our Courts for our citizens, and I hope you will consider our request favorably.

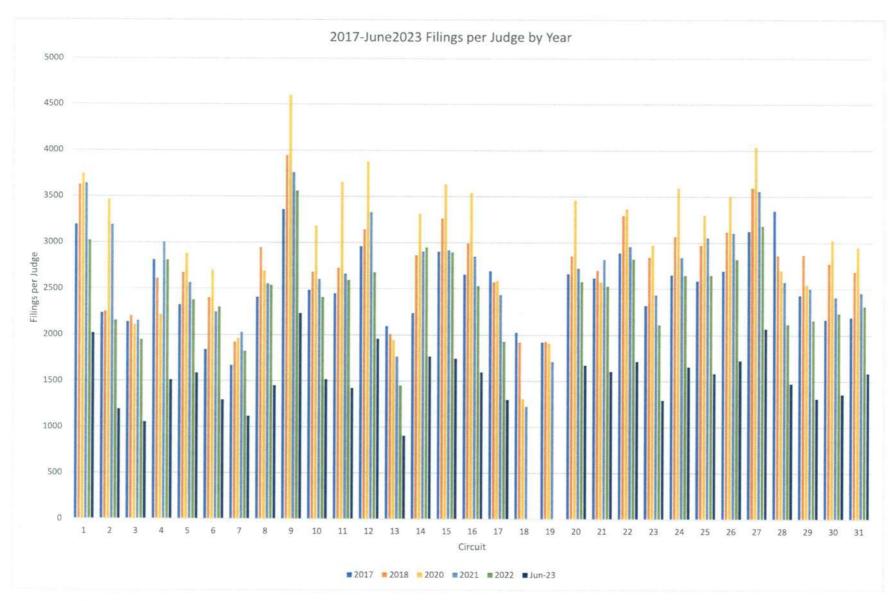
Sincerely,

Holly B. Smith Chief Judge

Ninth Judicial Circuit

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment, National Center for State Courts, 2017, page 39.





Data is normalized based on current number of judges.

Data for 2017, 2018, 2020, 2021 & 2022 taken from State of the Judiciary Annual Reports (no published data available for 2019).

Data for 2023 taken from "PLN-CCMS-10.01 Caseload Statistics of the Circuit Court, January 2022 - June 2023 filings".

Filings per judge per Year

		20	2017		2018		2020		2021		2022		Jun-23	
<u>Circuit</u>	<u>Judges</u>	<u>Filings</u>	<u>Per judge</u>	<u>Filings</u>	<u>Per judge</u>	<u>Filings</u>	<u>Per judge</u>	<u>Filings</u>	Per judge	<u>Filings</u>	<u>Per judge</u>	<u>Filings</u>	<u>Per judge</u>	
1	5	15,956	3191	18125	3625	18710	3742	18199	3640	15093	3019	10084	2017	
2	8	17,885	2236	18018	2252	27746	3468	25518	3190	17234	2154	9527	1191	
3	4	8,554	2139	8821	2205	8436	2109	8610	2153	7779	1945	4207	1052	
4	8	22,487	2811	20879	2610	17753	221 <del>9</del>	24022	3003	22449	2806	12087	1511	
5	4	9,303	2326	10685	2671	11515	2879	10258	2565	9509	2377	6340	1585	
6	3	5,517	1839	7208	2403	8097	2699	6742	2247	6905	2302	3878	1293	
7	5	8,340	1668	9605	1921	9817	1963	10137	2027	9105	1821	5575	1115	
8	3	7,22 <del>9</del>	2410	8831	2944	8066	2689	7661	2554	7612	2537	4349	1450	
9	4	13,439	3360	15776	3944	18393	4598	15045	3761	14237	3559	8932	2233	
10	4	9,949	2487	10715	2679	12730	3183	10414	2604	9640	2410	6067	1517	
11	3	7,348	2449	816 <del>9</del>	2723	10969	3656	7987	2662	7775	2592	4268	1423	
12	6	17,760	2960	18857	3143	23279	3880	19981	3330	16053	2676	11741	1 <del>9</del> 57	
13	7	14,664	2095	14060	2009	13610	1944	12345	1764	10163	1452	6337	905	
14	5	11,185	2237	14310	2862	16566	3313	14520	2904	14744	2 <del>949</del>	8821	1764	
15	11	31,920	2902	35866	3261	39969	3634	32086	2917	31826	2893	19168	1743	
16	6	15,916	2653	17943	2991	21241	3540	17094	2849	15187	2531	9567	1595	
17	4	10,7 <b>6</b> 6	2692	10281	2570	10338	2585	9746	2437	7713	1928	5188	1297	
18	3	6,080	2027	5756	1919	3913	1304	3668	1223	0	0	0	0	
19	15	28,822	1921	28903	1927	28621	1908	25640	1709	0	0	0	0	
20	5	13,308	2662	14264	2853	17294	3459	13602	2720	12882	2576	8355	1671	
21	3	7,846	2615	8087	<b>2696</b>	7706	2569	8456	2819	7590	2530	4809	1603	
22	4	11,547	2887	13170	3293	13470	3368	11831	2958	11283	2821	6855	1714	
23	5	11,602	2320	14198	2840	14861	2972	12183	2437	10559	2112	6458	1292	
24	6	15,904	2651	18385	3064	21554	3592	17030	2838	15868	2645	9914	<b>1652</b>	
25	6	15,513	2586	17822	2970	19797	3300	18323	3054	15887	2648	9489	1582	
26	8	21,535	2692	24936	3117	28071	3509	24819	3102	22545	2818	13777	1722	
27	6	18,738	3123	21553	3592	24225	4038	21345	3558	19077	3180	12402	2067	
28	4	13,379	3345	11440	2860	10788	2697	10291	2573	8462	2116	5892	1473	
29	5	12,156	2431	14337	2867	12727	2545	12501	2500	10793	2159	6539	1308	
30	4	8,666	2167	11088	2772	12102	3026	9639	2410	8929	2232	5431	1358	
31	7	15,340	2191	18796	2685	20645	2949	17195	2456	16161	2309	11092	1585	

Data is normalized based on current number of judges.

Data for 2017, 2018, 2020, 2021 & 2022 taken from State of the Judiciary Annual Reports (no published data available for 2019). Data for 2023 taken from "PLN-CCMS-10.01 Caseload Statistics of the Circuit Court, January 2022 - June 2023 filings".

### **CIRCUIT COURTS OF VIRGINIA**

July 2020 - June 2023 Filings & Filings Per Judge

	Total		Total Criminal				Adoptio	on	Juvenile		
	F	Filings Per		Filings Per		Filings Per		Filings Per		Filings Per	
	Filings	Judge	Filings	Judge	Filings	Judge	Filings	Judge	Filings	Judge	
1	48,229	9,646	20,760	4,152	26,505	5,301	217	43	747	149	
2	63,477	7,935	24,232	3,029	38,163	4,770	358	45	724	91	
3	23,415	5,854	5,195	1,299	17,884	4,471	30	8	306	77	
4	65,249	8,156	13,904	1,738	50,238	6,280	138	17	969	121	
5	31,007	7,752	12,742	3,186	17,889	4,472	119	30	257	64	
6	21,966	7,322	10,973	3,658	10,564	3,521	103	34	326	109	
7	29,152	5,830	11,943	2,389	16,457	3,291	155	31	597	119	
8	23,198	7,733	9,801	3,267	12,786	4,262	81	27	530	177	
9	46,031	11,508	14,053	3,513	31,232	7,808	220	55	526	132	
10	32,050	8,013	13,505	3,376	17,940	4,485	160	40	445	111	
11	25,013	8,338	9,760	3,253	14,781	4,927	112	37	360	120	
12	54,438	9,073	17,955	2,992	35,465	5,911	234	39	784	131	
13	31,472	4,496	11,686	1,669	19,255	2,751	105	15	426	61	
14	45,892	9,178	16,777	3,355	28,421	5,684	170	34	524	105	
15	104,444	9,495	40,953	3,723	61,464	5,588	456	41	1,571	143	
16	51,348	8,558	16,169	2,695	34,111	5,685	293	49	775	129	
17	24,142	6,036	6,877	1,719	16,953	4,238	53	13	259	65	
20	42,201	8,440	7,139	1,428	34,109	6,822	265	53	688	138	
21	24,501	8,167	14,274	4,758	9,889	3,296	85	28	253	84	
22	35,616	8,904	16,144	4,036	18,230	4,558	143	36		275	
23	35,666	7,133	13,283	2,657	20,791	4,158	289	58	1,099 1,303		
24	51,746	8,624	18,800	3,133	31,284	5,214	359	60	1,303	261	
25	52,037	8,673	24,989	4,165	26,190	4,365	230	38	628	217	
26	71,750	8,969	33,407	4,176	36,644	4,581	405			105	
27	70,698	11,783	38,306	6,384	30,451			51	1,294	162	
28	29,011	7,253	14,815	3,704		5,075	380	63	1,561	260	
29	35,927	7,185	21,289	4,258	13,631	3,408	171	43	394	99	
30	29,754	7,105	18,563		13,891	2,778	247	49	500	100	
31	52,217	7,439		4,641	10,597	2,649	220	55	374	94	
31	52,217	7,460	11,500	1,643	40,014	5,716	283	40	420	60	

Ranking of Filings Per Judge by Circuit for the Time Period of July 2020 - June 2023

Overall		Criminal			Civil			Adoption			Juvenile			
1	27	11,783	1	27	6,384	1	9	7,808	1	27	63	1	22	275
2	9	11,508	2	21	4,758	2	20	6,822	2	24	60	2	23	261
3	1	9,646	3	30	4,641	3	4	6,280	3	23	58	3	27	260
4	15	9,495	4	29	4,258	4	12	5,911	4	9	55	4	24	217
5	14	9,178	5	26	4,176	5	31	5,716	5	30	55	5	8	177
6	12	9,073	6	25	4,165	6	16	5,685	6	20	53	6	26	162
7	26	8,969	7	1	4,152	7	14	5,684	7	26	51	7	1	149
8	22	8,904	8	22	4,036	8	15	5,588	8	29	49	8	15	143
9	25	8,673	9	15	3,723	9	1	5,301	9	16	49	9	20	138
10	24	8,624	10	28	3,704	10	24	5,214	10	2	45	10	9	132
11	16	8,558	11	6	3,658	11	27	5,075	11	1	43	11	12	131
12	20	8,440	12	9	3,513	12	11	4,927	12	28	43	12	16	129
13	11	8,338	13	10	3,376	13	2	4,770	13	15	41	13	4	121
14	21	8,167	14	14	3,355	14	26	4,581	14	31	40	14	11	120
15	4	8,156	15	8	3,267	15	22	4,558	15	10	40	15	7	119
16	10	8,013	16	11	3,253	16	10	4,485	16	12	39	16	10	111
17	2	7,935	17	5	3,186	17	5	4,472	17	25	38	17	6	109
18	5	7,752	18	24	3,133	18	3	4,471	18	11	37	18	14	105
19	8	7,733	19	2	3,029	19	25	4,365	19	22	36	19	25	105
20	31	7,460	20	12	2,992	20	8	4,262	20	6	34	20	29	100
21	30	7,439	21	16	2,695	21	17	4,238	21	14	34	21	28	99
22	6	7,322	22	23	2,657	22	23	4,158	22	7	31	22	30	94
23	28	7,253	23	7	2,389	23	6	3,521	23	5	30	23	2	91
24	29	7,185	24	4	1,738	24	28	3,408	24	21	28	24	21	84
25	23	7,133	25	17	1,719	25	21	3,296	25	8	27	25	3	77
26	17	6,036	26	13	1,669	26	7	3,291	26	4	17	26	17	65
27	3	5,854	27	31	1,643	27	29	2,778	27	13	15	27	5	64
28	7	5,830	28	20	1,428	28	13	2,751	28	17	13	28	13	61
29	13	4,496	29	3	1,299	29	30	2,649	29	3	8	29	31	60

## Circuit Courts of Virginia Workload Per Judge by Circuit

	Januar	y 2017 - December	2019	Ju	July 2020 - June 2023				
Circuit	Rank	Workload Per Judge	Assigned Judges	Rank	Workload Per Judge	Assigned Judges			
1	2	1.26	5	2	1.13	5			
2	10	1.08	8	11	0.99	8			
3	23	0.91	4	25	0.77	4			
4	25	0.90	8	24	0.81	8			
5	22	0.93	4	23	0.83	4			
6	24	0.90	3	22	0.86	3			
7	28	0.82	5	27	0.73	5			
8	11	1.07	3	21	0.88	3			
9	6	1.16	4	4	1.09	4			
10	18	1.02	4	14	0.96	4			
11	19	1.01	3	18	0.92	3			
12	15	1.06	6	16	0.95	6			
13	27	0.84	7	28	0.69	7			
14	13	1.06	5	9	1.01	5			
15	7	1.16	11	8	1.01	11			
16	17	1.03	6	20	0.89	6			
17	21	0.99	4	19	0.89	4			
20	26	0.88	5	26	0.75	5			
21	16	1.03	3	7	1.04	3			
22	5	1.17	4	3	1.11	4			
23	3	1.25	5	13	0.96	5			
24	12	1.06	6	15	0.96	6			
25	9	1.11	6	10	1.00	6			
26	14	1.06	8	5	1.07	8			
27	1	1.27	6	1	1.52	6			
28	20	1.00	4	17	0.93	4			
29	8	1.14	5	12	0.99	5			
30	4	1.21	4	6	1.06	4			
31	29	0.79	7	29	0.63	7			

The 29 Circuits on CCMS are displayed in the table. The 18 and 19th Circuit are not included since they are not on CCMS.

Ranking (1-29) is sorted by the highest workload per judge.

Judicial workload data was updated on 8-17-2023.

January 2017- December 2019 (Workload per Judge by Circuit)

Circuit	Workload Per Judge
27	1.27
1	1.26
23	1.25
30	1.21
22	1.17
9	1.16
15	1.16
29	1.14
25	1.11
2	1.08
8	1.07
24	1.06
14	1.06
26	1.06
12	1.06
21	1.03
16	1.03
10	1.02
11	1.01
28	1
17	0.99
5	0.93
3	0.91
6	0.9
4	0.9
20	0.88
13	0.84
7	0.82
31	0.79



#### July 2020-June 2023 (Workload per Judge by Circuit)

Circuit	Workload Per Judge
27	1.52
1	1.13
22	1.11
9	1.09
26	1.07
30	1.06
21	1.04
15	1.01
14	1.01
25	1
2	0.99
29	0.99
23	0.96
10	0.96
24	0.96
12	0.95
28	0.93
11	0.92
17	0.89
16	0.89
8	0.88
6	0.86
5	0.83
4	0.81
3	0.77
20	0.75
7	0.73
13	0.69
31	0.63



1) Judicial Workload

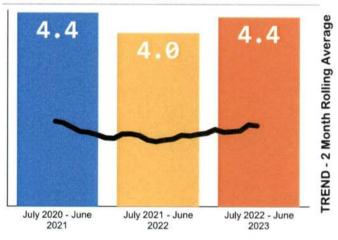
Overall Judicial Workload	<b>4.36</b> <sub>4.26 + 0.10</sub>
Judicial Workload	4.26
Chief Judge Additional Workload	0.10
Workload Per Judge (4)	1.09
Workload with Additional Judge (5)	0.87
% of Interpreter Usage	-

2) Judicial Workload Based on 4 Judges

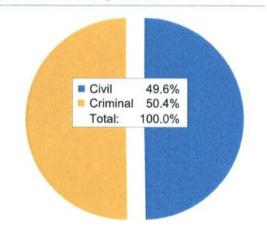
	Workload*	Based on 4 Judges**
Williamsburg	1.16	1.09
York	1.10	1.04
Gloucester	0.78	0.73
New Kent	0.39	0.37
King William	0.26	0.24
Middlesex	0.22	0.21
King & Queen	0.13	0.12
Mathews	0.12	0.11
Charles City	0.10	0.09
Judges	4.26	4.00

<sup>\*</sup> This column based on current workload

#### 3) Judicial Workload in 12 Month Increments



#### 4) Judicial Workload by Division



#### 5) Judicial Workload by Locality & Division

	<u>Cha</u>	Glo	K&Q	Kin	Mat	Mid	New	Wil	Yor	Workload
Civil	0.06	0.35	0.05	0.14	0.06	0.11	0.17	0.63	0.54	2.12
Criminal	0.04	0.43	0.08	0.12	0.06	0.11	0.22	0.52	0.57	2.15
Total	0.10	0.78	0.13	0.26	0.12	0.22	0.39	1.16	1.10	4.26

#### 6) Judicial Workload Percentage by Locality & Division

	Cha	Glo	K&Q	Kin	Mat	Mid	New	Wil	Yor	Workload
Civil	61%	45%	36%	54%	52%	51%	45%	55%	48%	50%
Criminal	39%	55%	64%	46%	48%	49%	55%	45%	52%	50%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100000000000000000000000000000000000000			100%	100%	100%	100%

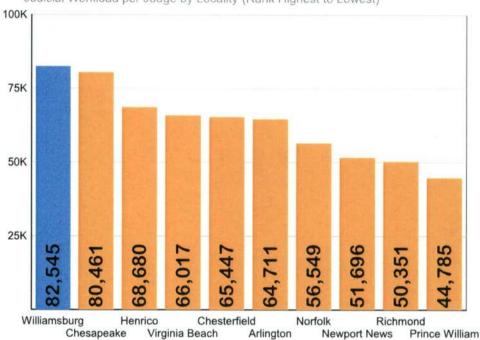
<sup>\*\*</sup> This column based on workload for 4 Judges

### **CIRCUIT COURTS OF VIRGINIA**

Judicial Workload Comparison August 2019 - July 2022







#### Judges per Locality

Arlington	4
Chesapeake	5
Chesterfield	6
Henrico	5
Newport News	5
Norfolk	8
Prince William	7
Richmond	7
Virginia Beach	8
Williamsburg	1

#### Judicial Workload by Division and Locality

	Civil	Criminal	Total
Williamsburg	45,220	37,325	82,545
Chesapeake	35,689	44,772	80,461
Henrico	32,648	36,032	68,680
Virginia Beach	36,779	29,238	66,017
Chesterfield	31,751	33,696	65,447
Arlington	44,942	19,770	64,711
Norfolk	35,386	21,163	56,549
Newport News	26,549	25,147	51,696
Richmond	28,499	21,852	50,351
Prince William	27,629	17,156	44,785

This report shows 1 Judge's judicial workload per locality, using data from August 2019 to July 2022, based on the judicial weights of the most recent Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment: https://rga.lis.virginia.gov/Published/2017/HD15/PDF

## Exhibit B

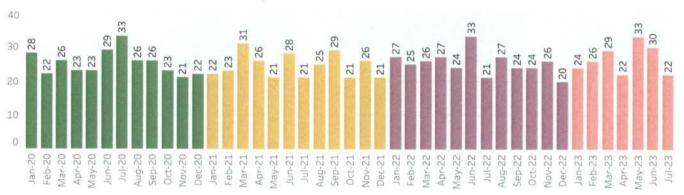
### Williamsburg Circuit Court

January 2020 - July 2023 Dates for Courtrooms 1 & 2

#### Overall Total Dates for Courtrooms 1 & 2 by Year

2020	2021	2022	2023
302	294	304	186

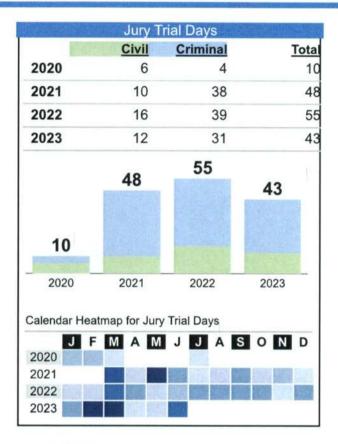
#### Overall Total Dates for Courtrooms 1 & 2 by Year & Month



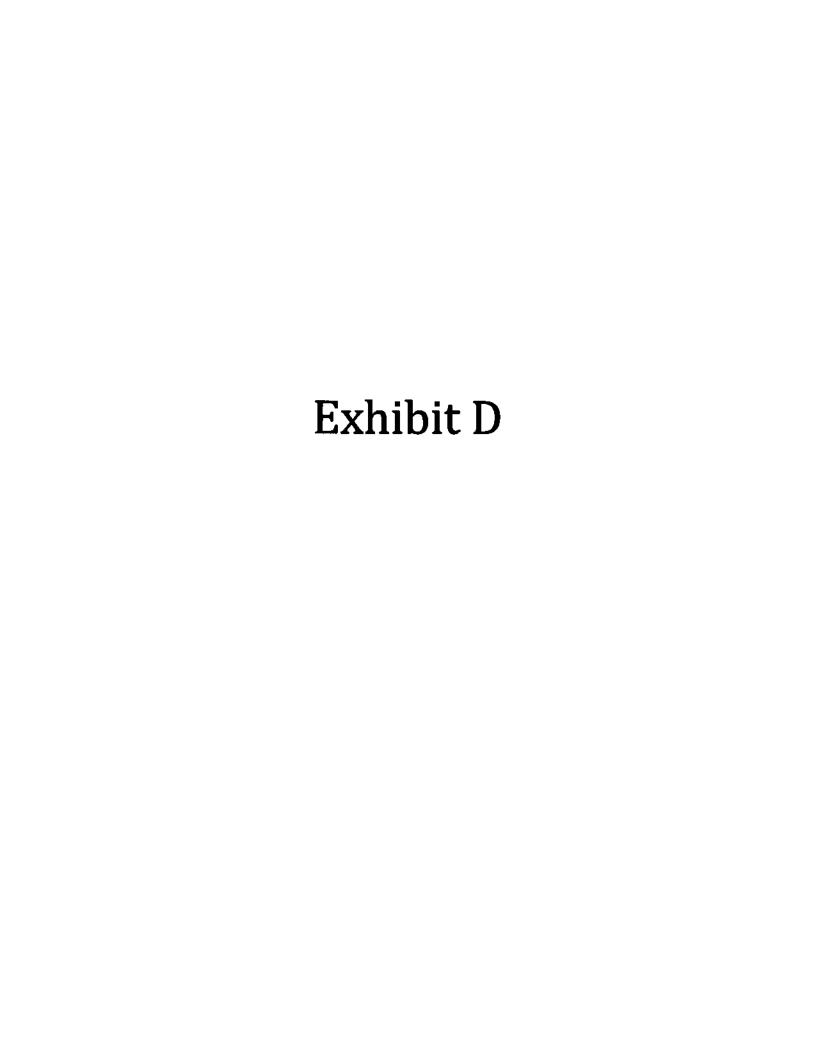
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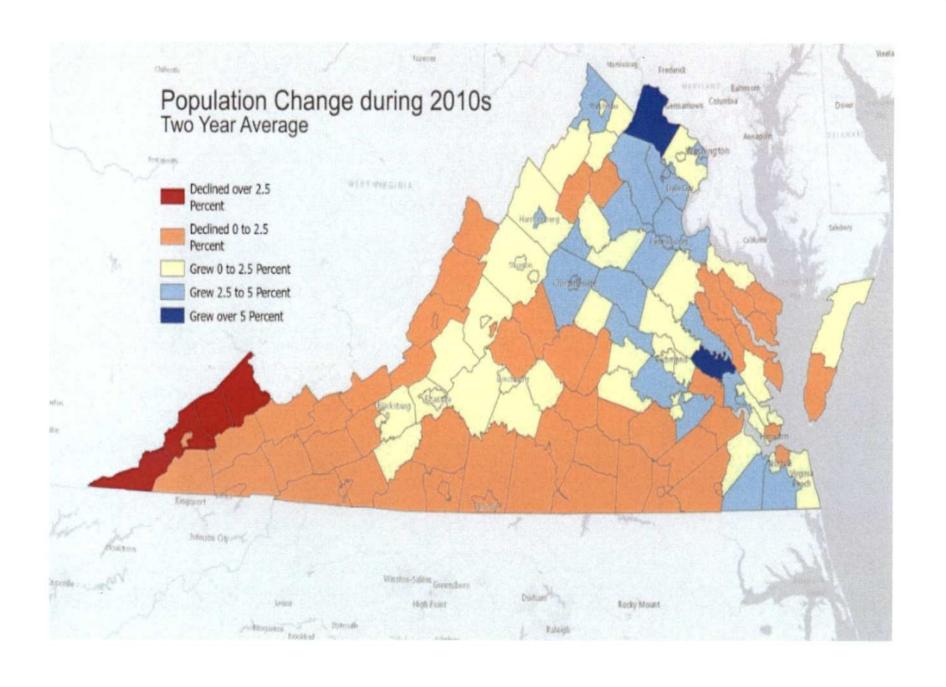


	Juries	Impaneled	
	Civil	Criminal	Total
2020	5	3	8
2021	6	20	26
2022	13	30	43
2023	5	18	23
		43	
	26		23
8			
2020	2021	2022	2023
Calendar Hea	atmap for Jur	ies Impaneled	
<b>J</b> F 2020	MAM	JUA	SOND
2021			
2022			



		2020			2021		2022			2023			
		Civ	Cri	Total	Civ	Cri	Total	Civ	Cri	Total	Civ	Cri	Total
Charles City	Impaneled	-	1	1	1	1	2	3	1	4		20-	
Charles City	Trial Days	-	1	1	1	2	3	3	1	4	-	-	0
Gloucester	Impaneled	-	-	-	-	5	5	4	6	10	-	4	4
Gloucester	Trial Days	-	+	0	-	6	6	4	9	13	-	5	5
Vina 9 Ousan	Impaneled	-	-						1	1		-	
King & Queen	Trial Days	-	=	0	- 2	-	0	-	1	1	-	-	0
Vina William	Impaneled		1	1	1	4	5		7	7		1	1
King William	Trial Days	-	1	1	1	16	17	-	10	10	-	2	2
Mathews	Impaneled		-	- 6		1	1		-	-	-		
Matriews	Trial Days	-	-	0	-	2	2	-	_	0	-		0
Middlesex	Impaneled	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	3	4	-	-	-
Middlesex	Trial Days	-	-	0	-	1	1	1	3	4	-	-	0
New Kent	Impaneled	1	-	1	2	3	5	-	2	2		3	3
New Kent	Trial Days	1	-	1	6	3	9	-	2	2	:=:	3	3
Williamsburg	Impaneled	1	-	1	1	4	5	2	7	9	1	6	7
vviillarrisburg	Trial Days	1	-	1	1	4	5	2	7	9	1	11	12
York	Impaneled	3	1	4	1	1	2	3	3	6	4	4	8
TOIK	Trial Days	4	2	6	1	4	5	6	6	12	11	10	21
- Impaneled	Impaneled	5	3	8	6	20	26	13	30	43	5	18	23
Total	Trial Days	6	4	10	10	38	48	16	39	55	12	31	43





## Exhibit E

# Liz Parman, President Williamsburg Bar Association Post Office Box 8784 Williamsburg, Virginia 23187-8784

September 6, 2023

#### VIA E-MAIL and INTEROFFICE MAIL

Hon. Holly B. Smith, Chief Judge 5201 Monticello Avenue, Suite One Williamsburg, VA 23188

Re: Williamsburg Bar Association - Judicial Council of Virginia

Dear Judge Smith:

As the President of the Williamsburg Bar Association (the "Bar") and with the unanimous consent of the Bar's Board of Directors, I am writing to you to convey the Bar's support to add an additional Circuit Court Judge to support the 9th Judicial Circuit of Virginia (the "9th Circuit"). While the Bar members deeply appreciate the dedication and time given to them by the sitting Judges of the 9th Circuit, it is clear to our members that additional assistance is urgently needed.

First and foremost, it is important to clarify that this letter is not intended to be a critique of how the 9th Circuit operates or of the conduct of its Judges. Rather, it is an acknowledgement and appreciation of their dedicated work to handle ever-increasing caseloads and is a plea for assistance to ensure that the 9th Circuit continues to operate as efficiently as it has for many years.

Much has changed over the past few decades in the communities that make up the 9th Circuit. Since 1990, James City County has grown from a bedroom community of 35,000 residents to a rapidly urbanizing area of 80,000 people with no material slowdown in sight. New Kent County was home to 10,000 residents and tens of thousands of acres of trees grown for the Chesapeake Corporation and is now recognized as the fastest-growing community in the Commonwealth, outpacing those in Northern Virginia. York County has nearly doubled in size from 42,000 residents to more than 70,000. With new residents come new legal issues, which has given rise to new law firms and more attorneys; indeed, the Bar membership has grown from a few dozen to more than 110 active members in 2023.

What has not changed during that time is the number of judges seated in the 9th Circuit. The additional caseload appears to have been partially absorbed by an ever-increasing number of substitute judges. While the Bar appreciates their willingness to serve, the members of the Bar appreciate and strongly prefer the consistency associated with a sitting judge. Having knowledge

of a judge's preferences allows counsel to give relevant advice to their clients before trial and to effectively and succinctly present their case during trial. Seated judges have a thorough knowledge of our communities and their residents, which helps in understanding what gave rise to the issues before them and often eliminates the need for counsel to take up valuable court time to explain background information to an out-of-area substitute judge.

Substitute judges are also absorbing the impact of an increased demand for criminal juries, which has posed unique scheduling challenges to dockets and delayed litigants in having their day in court. With recent changes in the law related to sentencing, criminal defendants are lawfully requesting more jury trials. The increased demand for criminal juries impacts the ability for civil juries to proceed, as criminal juries are often given priority on the dockets. As a result, some courts are scheduling multiple juries on a single day (a process known as "stacking") in an effort to efficiently manage dockets. However, due to community resources, which includes judges, deputies, court reporters, and other courthouse staff, only one jury is able to proceed on a given date. The other scheduled juries are continued to a much later date, which creates uncertainty for litigants in both the preparation and the resolution of cases. An additional judge would assist in alleviating the jury scheduling demand on the docket and allow juries to be set within reasonable time frames.

Finally, it is well-documented that the profession of law is one that imposes some of the highest levels of stress among all types of employment. This stress often causes burnout and early retirement from the practice. Our members are not immune to those stressors, nor are the judicial members of the 9th Circuit. It is the Bar's opinion that the growth in case numbers due to the explosion of population in our communities has not been adequately mitigated by an increase in judicial appointments. We do not wish to see our newly-seated judges burn out or retire early due to something as easily remedied as additional staffing.

In conclusion, the members of the Bar offer our unmitigated support of your request that the 9th Circuit Judicial Council recommend that the General Assembly seat an additional Circuit Court judge in the 9th Circuit. We believe that this addition has been made necessary by the boundless influx of new residents to the communities that make up the 9th Circuit and the resultant increase in caseload. While substitute judges have offered an adequate temporary fix, it is clear to our members that a permanent solution is what is most needed.

Thank you for the opportunity to express the views of the Bar's membership. I hope that it is of assistance.

Sincerely,

Liz Parman

President, Williamsburg Bar Association



#### **Board of Supervisors**

Thomas W. Evelyn C. Thomas Tiller, Jr. Patricia A. Paige Ron Stiers John N. Lockwood District 1 District 2 District 3 District 4 District 5

Rodney A. Hathaway County Administrator

www.co.new-kent.va.us

September 1, 2023

Committee on District Courts
c/o Mr. Karl Hade
Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court of Virginia
Office of the Executive Secretary
Supreme Court of Virginia
100 North Ninth Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Subject: Letter of Support for an Additional Judgeship for the 9th Judicial Circuit of Virginia

Dear Mr. Hade,

On behalf of the New Kent County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to you and the Committee on District Courts in support of the 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Courts' request for an additional judgeship.

The 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit is experiencing a considerable amount of growth, with New Kent County being one of the fastest growing localities in the Commonwealth of Virginia. According to the 2020 census, New Kent's population increased from 18,432 in 2010 to 23,091 in 2019, a 25.3% increase, which was the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest growth rate in Virginia behind Loudon County and is over three times the Virginia growth rate of 7.9% during that period. The University of Virginia's Weldon Cooper Center performs annual population estimates for Virginia's cities and counties and their latest publication that was published on January 30, 2023 states that New Kent has grown 8.1% since the 2020 census which is currently the highest growth rate in Virginia. Therefore, for over a decade New Kent has been one of the fastest growing localities in the Commonwealth, and it appears from current development activity that New Kent will continue to grow at a fast pace.

Not only has New Kent experienced growth in population, but due to a significant amount of new economic development activity, the County has experienced and is anticipating exponential growth in visitors and commuters. The Colonial Downs Race Track and Rosie's Gaming Emporium is having a record year in regards to visitors and revenues. We are eagerly anticipating the opening of a new AutoZone Distribution Center in early 2025 that will employ over 350 employees. Also, several months ago the County announced that a Buc-ees Travel Center has purchased land in the County to build a 74,000 square foot travel center that will employee over 170 employees with a projection of approximately 2 million vehicle visits per year. There are also several other large economic development projects in the pipeline that will bring hundreds of new employees into the County, commuting from neighboring localities.

The increases in population and travelers through the County has had a direct impact on the provision of County services as we've seen increases in public safety service demands, utility demands, land use permitting demands, and also significant increases in demands for court services. As a result of increased caseloads and demands for court services, additional court days have been added to our schedule and the County has funded additional positions in the Commonwealth Attorney's office. New Kent County finds that it is essential for judges to have reasonable caseloads that allow justice to remain the top priority, therefore expedience cannot be a priority when such vital, life-altering decisions are being made. Unfortunately, the underfunding of the judiciary has become an increasingly critical problem in Virginia placing additional burdens on localities and the judicial system. New Kent County fully supports the 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit's request for an additional judgeship to ensure that the judiciary can continue to perform its vital role as intended and required.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important issue. We look forward to working with you and other members of the General Assembly in years to come to ensure adequate funding and resources for our judiciary.

Sincerely,

Rodney A. Hathaway County Administrator

cc: Members, New Kei

Members, New Kent County Board of Supervisors

Members, New Kent County Delegation in the General Assembly

9th Judicial Circuit Judges

Joshua Everard, County Attorney



### COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY County of York - City of Poquoson



## Krystyn Lee Reid, Commonwealth's Attorney Denna M. Maw, Chief Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney

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James A. Patterson Asst. Commonwealth's Attorney II

Kimberly E. Heneley Asst. Commonwealth's Attorney

Michael P. Stehlin Asst. Commonwealth's Attorney

September 12, 2023

Re: Request for Additional Judgeship for the 9th Judicial Circuit

**Dear Council:** 

I am writing in support of the 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit's request for authorization for an additional judgeship.

The caseload for the 9th Judicial Circuit has exponentially increased in the past few years. Due to recent legislation, demands for jury trials have overwhelmed our courthouses. In York/Poquoson, we have "stacked" criminal and civil jury trials, a strategy that is at best challenging for all involved-litigants, attorneys, cierks and judges. At the same time, the addition of Body Worn Cameras has extended the average trial time. These two factors have joined forces to burden our local public servants.

When I began employment in the York- Poquoson Commonwealth's Attorney's Office in 2002, we employed the equivalent of five full time attorneys. Today that number is 8.75. Our support staff when I began was comprised of five support staff employees, it now has grown to six. Our Victim Witness Assistance staff was two employees in 2022, today it is 3.5. Our local York- Poquoson Sheriff's Office was approximately sixty employees back then. Today it is almost double that number. As these offices have grown, our Circuit Court bench has not kept pace. Now seems to be the correct time to expand our bench to correspond with the growth of other offices that feed work into our courts.

I am part of a working group comprised of judges, prosecutors, probation officers, and treatment providers aiming to start much needed Drug Court and Behavioral Health Court in the 9th Judicial Circuit. These two hour meetings have been held during the evening hours based on the limited availability of our judges. To meet during regular working hours would necessitate canceling a docket and, due to time constraints, that is not a viable option. One of our major struggles is determining when the weekly Drug Docket will meet given the current time constraints facing our Circuit Court judges. The addition of a judge would pave the way for these overdue Courts to come into existence and successfully meet the needs of these underserved communities.

The one thing that has not been sacrificed by the busy dockets is the time and attention each litigant receives from our judges. Each and every judge in the 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit gives the parties their full attention, never rushing the cases or the docket. Our judges take great pains to make sure everyone POST OFFICE BOX 40 • YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • FAX (757) 890-3419 • CHARGINIA 23890-0455 • PH (757) 890-3401 • CHARGINIA 23890 • CHARGINIA 23890 • CHARGINIA 23890 • CHARGINIA 23890 • CHARGINIA

in their courtrooms is given adequate time to plead their cases and feel fully heard. This often leads to our judges bringing an inordinate amount of work home in order to properly prepare for the next day. In a time when work-life balance is important, we are running the risk of burning out these dedicated public servants.

In sum, I wholly support the  $9^{th}$  Judicial Circuit court's request for authorization for an additional judge.

Sincerely,

Krystyn L. Reid

York/ Poquoson Commonwealth's Attorney

### **SCHEMPF & WARE, PLLC**

Bryan H. Schempf Emily Munn

Attorneys and Counselors at Law
4000 George Washington Memorial Highway
Yorktown, Virginia 23692
Telephone: (757) 240-4000 Facsimile: (757) 240-4001
E-Mail Address: mware@4000law.com

Michael B. Ware Nicholas R. Hobbs

September 11, 2023

The Honorable Richard H. Rizk York County Circuit Court P. O. Box 371 Yorktown, Virginia 23690

Dear Judge Rizk:

As a practicing attorney with almost 40 years of practice, especially in the 9th Circuit with an office in Yorktown, Virginia and a practice that has a high concentration in Yorktown, Gloucester and Williamsburg, as well as occasional matters in Matthews, Saluda and New Kent, I write in support of an additional Circuit Court Judge to alleviate the demands on the Court and Counsel in the Circuit.

As indicated, I have practiced in the area for close to 40 years and have seen and experienced the growth of the aforementioned communities and the demands they have placed upon the Court.

The sleepy town environment of Williamsburg, Yorktown and Gloucester are now a thing of the past with a major growth of population and dockets which have grown significantly over the years and compounded over the last few years.

In recent years, it is not unusual to appear in Williamsburg and/or York County for a Circuit Court matter, only to be informed that a retired Judge is sitting on the matter. This is not a concern when the substitute Judge has been involved in the matter from the outset, and prior rulings and arguments have been entertained by the substitute Judge. However, as often the case, because of the demands on the Court, a substantial case is often tried by a Judge with little involvement prior to the trial date. This has happened to me personally, and in one such matter opposing counsel was very concerned about the potential lack of familiarity with the case the substitute Judge would possess. In my opinion, in that case, the Judge was well prepared, and I do not feel that my clients' interests were impaired by the change in the Judge trying the case. There have however, been cases in the Williamsburg court when such was not the case, simply because of the numerous substitute Judges utilized to handle the docket when uncontrollable demands are place on the Court's docket.

I believe we have an excellent Circuit Bar in the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit, and the Judges all strive to properly handle the cases before them. All of them evidence the efforts they put into the file to assure that each litigant receives a fair and reasonable ruling from the Bench. It is also apparent that they are

# Schempf & Ware, PLLC

#### Page 2

also being stretched to meet these objectives when a multi-day trial arises and interrupts their schedule, and it forces the engagement of a substitute Judge to handle the other pressing matters on the docket. This scenario has become more and more common in recent years.

Thus, speaking for myself, and many other attorneys in the 9th Circuit, I would ask that the 9th Circuit Judicial Council give strong consideration to recommending the appointment of additional Judges (or Judge) to the 9th Circuit to assist the current Judges and aid in bringing some continuity to the Docket. I believe such consideration is past due.

I appreciate any consideration you can give me and the local bar in this regard.

Sincerely,

SCHEMPF & WARE, PLLC

Michael B. Ware

MBW/db

# SENATE OF VIRGINIA

#### THOMAS K. NORMENT, JR.

3RD SENATORIAL DISTRICT
ALL OF GLOUCESTER, KING AND QUEEN,
KING WILLIAM, AND NEW KENT COUNTIES;
ALL OF THE CITY OF POQUOSON; PART OF ISLE OF
WIGHT, JAMES CITY, SURRY, AND YORK COUNTIES;
AND PART OF THE CITIES OF HAMPTON AND SUFFOLK
POST OFFICE BOX 6205
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA 23188
(804) 698-7503 RICHMOND
(757) 259-7810 WILLIAMSBURG



COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: COMMERCE AND LABOR JUDICIARY FINANCE AND APPROPRIATIONS BUILES

October 9, 2022

The Honorable Karl R. Hade Executive Secretary Virginia Supreme Court 100 North Ninth Street Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Karl:

As an "old timer" I have practiced law in the Ninth Judicial Circuit literally for fifty years. Having grown up in Williamsburg-James City County I have, with mixed emotions, watched the area evolve from a small town, rural community to a population explosion that last year was one of the fastest growing communities in Virginia. Couple that citizen growth with an increase in the William and Mary student body by 600 students, Eastern State Hospital and major tourist attractions, the stress on the circuit's judicial system has been taxed.

Having served on the Senate Courts Committee and chaired the Senate Finance Committee, I am well aware of the competing pressure to create new judgeships.

I am respectfully requesting the Judicial Council approve the new judgeship request submitted by Judge Holly B. Smith on September 13, 2023. With kindest regards, I remain

Very Truly Yours,

Thomas Knowld

Thomas K. Norment, Jr.

CC: The Honorable Ryan T. McDougle

The Honorable Holly Smith

The Honorable Jeffrey W. Shaw

The Honorable Elliot Bondurant

The Honorable Richard Rizk

Sharon L. Abernathy

# Commonwealth of Mirginia

FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

JUDGES

Gordon F. Willis
J. Overton Harris
Sarah L. Deneke
Michael E. Levy
Patricia Kelly
Herbert M. Hewitt
Victoria A. B. Willis
R. Michael McKenney
Ricardo Rigual
William E. Glover
J. Bruce Strickland



Michael E. Levy Stafford Circuit Court Post Office Box 895 Stafford, Virginia 22555-0895 (540) 658-4840 FAX (540) 658-4625

October 17, 2022

RETIRED JUDGES

William H. Ledbetter, Jr.
H. Harrison Braxton, Jr.
Ann Hunter Simpson
John R. Alderman
Horace A. Revercomb, III
J. Martin Bass
David H. Beck
Harry T. Taliaferro, III
Joseph J. Ellis
Charles S. Sharp

Karl R. Hade Executive Secretary Supreme Court of Virginia 100 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street Richmond, VA 23219

Re: Addition of a Judge in the 15th Circuit

#### Dear Mr. Hade:

As the current Chief Judge for the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, I have been asked to request that you consider our need for an additional Judge in the Circuit. I understand the Judicial Council is meeting and could consider this matter the week of October 17.

The chart Judicial Workload per Judge by Locality ranks Spotsylvania and Hanover the two highest for comparable jurisdictions in the Commonwealth from 2019 – 2022. In recognition of this need, Hanover is building out an additional Circuit Courtroom, with expected completion in May 2023. Spotsylvania has already built a Circuit Courtroom which is being used by a Judge Designate from time to time to help keep the two Judges heads above water with that Court's docket.

October 17, 2022 Karl R. Hade Page two

The Judicial Workload numbers for Hanover and Spotsylvania total 4.87 Judges needed, where those two jurisdictions currently have four Judges. Effectively, they would be splitting almost all the new Judge's time.

Stafford shows as tenth on that chart. It is noteworthy that the 53,457 cases are staffed by three Judges. Listed on the chart below Stafford are Newport News, with 50,326 cases and 5 Judges and Richmond with 50,115 Judges and 7 Judges.

Notwithstanding the number shown on the chart for Stafford, the reality in Stafford is that usually nine criminal Juries are being set on a single day, (three in each of the three Courtrooms). It should be noted that many of these are now defense requested Juries. Civil cases are also being "stacked" three on one day on each Judge's docket.

Part of the increased demand for civil dates is believed to have resulted from the extended delay in scheduling civil cases in Fairfax. As a result, there has been a noticeable increase in cases filed or defended by Fairfax based practitioners in Stafford.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Levy

Chief Judge

#### September 2019 - August 2022 Workload Based on Filings

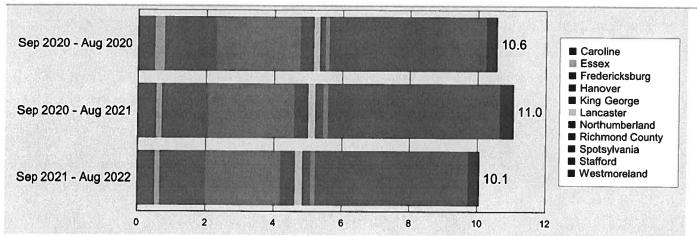
#### 1) Judicial Workload

#### **Spotsylvania** 2.48 Hanover 2.39 Stafford 2.25 Fredericksburg 1.40 Caroline 0.50 **King George** 0.41 Westmoreland 0.35 **Essex** 0.21 Lancaster 0.21 **Northumberland** 0.21 **Richmond County** 0.14 Total 10.55

#### 2) Judicial Workload Based on 11 Judges

	3 Year Total	Sep 2020 - Aug 2020	Sep 2020 - Aug 2021	Sep 2021 - Aug 2022
Spotsylvania	2.58	0.82	0.85	0.81
Hanover	2.49	0.82	0.84	0.73
Stafford	2.35	0.73	0.83	0.69
Fredericksburg	1.46	0.51	0.45	0.44
Caroline	0.52	0.16	0.18	0.17
King George	0.42	0.13	0.14	0.14
Westmoreland	0.36	0.11	0.13	0.11
Essex	0.22	0.10	0.06	0.05
Lancaster	0.22	0.06	0.07	0.08
Northumberland	0.21	0.05	0.08	0.08
Richmond County	0.15	0.04	0.05	0.05
Judges	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0

#### 3) Judicial Workload in 12 Month Increments



4) Judicial Workload by Locality, Division, and Case Type (Top 8 Case Types)

		<u>Car</u>	<u>Ess</u>	<u>Fre</u>	<u>Han</u>	<u>Kin</u>	<u>Lan</u>	<u>Nor</u>	Ric	Spo	Sta	Wes	Workload
	F	0.230	0.105	0.748	1.065	0.212	0.100	0.113	0.081	1.256	1.197	0.187	5.2938
	М	0.030	0.004	0.078	0.165	0.030	0.008	0.006	0.008	0.085	0.124	0.009	0.5468
	0	0.007	0.007	0.022	0.024	0.003	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.036	0.058	0.010	0.1734
_	l	0.004	0.004	0.009	0.019	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.004	0.010	0.013	0.006	0.0744
2	С	0.003	0.000	0.001	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.002	0.011	0.000	0.0215
Criminal	FC	0.000	0.008	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.008	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.000	0.0195
<u>5</u>	Total	0.274	0.128	0.858	1.276	0.247	0.119	0.124	0.094	1.388	1.406	0.213	6.129
	DIV	0.040	0.017	0.126	0.420	0.028	0.013	0.018	0.013	0.207	0.223	0.030	1.1344
	CV	0.026	0.010	0.085	0.060	0.019	0.008	0.006	0.005	0.250	0.083	0.032	0.5847
	CHP	0.021	0.008	0.010	0.079	0.022	0.008	0.009	0.005	0.096	0.095	0.012	0.3664
	CNTR	0.009	0.003	0.025	0.160	0.008	0.005	0.004	0.003	0.031	0.044	0.002	0.2933
	MV	0.022	0.005	0.037	0.054	0.010	0.003	0.001	0.002	0.073	0.076	0.003	0.2867
	ADOP	0.010	0.001	0.012	0.022	0.008	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.040	0.040	0.003	0.1392
	MED	0.002	0.005	0.058	0.007	0.000	0.010	0.002	0.002	0.022	0.024	0.000	0.1340
	COM	0.005	0.003	0.035	0.017	0.003	0.002	0.001	0.003	0.023	0.026	0.011	0.1307
	JAFP	0.008	0.003	800.0	0.031	0.000	0.003	0.003	0.000	0.032	0.020	0.004	0.1113
₹	Others	0.085	0.030	0.147	0.264	0.059	0.035	0.036	0.015	0.317	0.216	0.040	1.2441
<u>₹</u>	Total	0.228	0.085	0.544	1.115	0.159	0.088	0.082	0.049	1.091	0.848	0.137	4.425
Tot	al	0.50	0.21	1.40	2.39	0.41	0.21	0.21	0.14	2.48	2.25	0.35	10.55

10/12/22

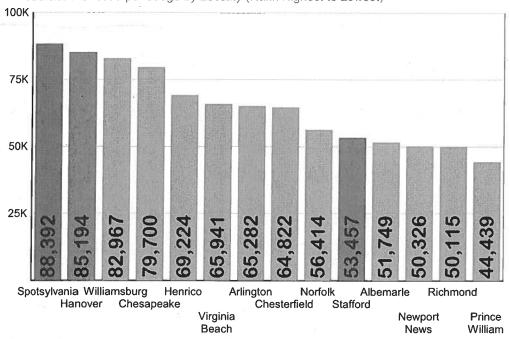
Source: CCMS/CBRDB/WADE

# **CIRCUIT COURTS OF VIRGINIA**

Judicial Workload Comparison September 2019 - August 2022







Judges per Locality

Albemarle	1.4
Arlington	4.0
Chesapeake	5.0
Chesterfield	6.0
Hanover	2.0
Henrico	5.0
<b>Newport News</b>	5.0
Norfolk	8.0
Prince William	7.0
Richmond	7.0
Spotsylvania	2.0
Stafford	3.0
Virginia Beach	8.0
Williamsburg	1.0

Judicial Workload by Division and Locality

	Civil	Criminal	Total
Spotsylvania	38,912	49,481	88,392
Hanover	39,769	45,425	85,194
Williamsburg	45,712	37,255	82,967
Chesapeake	35,134	44,566	79,700
Henrico	33,020	36,205	69,224
Virginia Beach	36,900	29,041	65,941
Arlington	45,335	19,947	65,283
Chesterfield	31,559	33,263	64,822
Norfolk	35,562	20,853	56,415
Stafford	20,038	33,419	53,457
Albemarle	35,208	16,540	51,749
<b>Newport News</b>	25,442	24,883	50,326
Richmond	28,455	21,660	50,115



Judicial Workload by Division, Filing Type and Locality

		Albem	<u>Arlin</u>	Chesa	Chest	<u>Hanov</u>	<u>Henri</u>	Newpo	<u>Norfo</u>	Princ	Richm	Spots	Staff
Civil	DIVC	6,492	4,338	11,381	5,858	11,859	5,162	3,699	9,734	5,040	2,072	5,890	4,127
Ö	CNTR	1,554	21,568	1,079	2,635	5,707	3,046	538	739	2,036	1,807	1,109	1,045
	MV	2,834	2,123	1,830	3,300	1,931	4,028	3,012	2,787	3,352	6,034	2,603	1,799
	CV	1,300	1,073	3,612	2,770	2,129	1,833	2,087	1,875	1,153	1,113	8,910	1,980
	CHP	1,871	638	1,792	2,423	2,828	1,803	1,109	715	2,118	482	3,421	2,268
	MED	2,109	1,997	1,702	1,302	261	2,640	2,431	2,366	1,414	2,729	782	579
	DIVU	1,414	1,227	3,040	1,555	3,130	1,423	1,141	2,558	1,344	579	1,514	1,085
	ADOP	1,112	299	909	825	789	713	585	368	777	302	1,408	939
	JAFP	809	275	941	1,104	1,099	906	735	-	829	265	1,150	469
	WD	372	564	347	637	868	834	590	890	868	1,116	521	232
	GTOR	762	747	512	572	373	853	427	555	646	923	533	199
	COM2	914	37	563	405	245	943	222	307	518	887	405	370
	JAVS	392	335	577	1,156	<u>-</u>	515	419	240	265	172	1,494	732
	GAOT	12	13	14	31	17	48	3	19	19	19	17	_
	APPT	583	708	365	415	371	408	332	381	483	246	533	342
	PET4	146	225	150	136	179	350	122	2,539	238	452	102	96
	COMP	607	94	88	436	272	568	469	952	685	821	306	91
	DTAX	534	21	279	269	221	75	337	304	19	2,249	170	74
	GAWD	304	272	377	400	383	323	262	261	318	270	417	436
	AID	275	602	520	241	482	559	231	120	206	138	48	96
	TP	760	112	117	97	17	364	185	240	59	162	464	137
	JAOT	123	9	-	11		117	7	13	10			57
	DCRP	1,371	757	17	_	512	-	-	477	210	-		_
	GAMC	α 11	111	20	_		7	3	2	10	-	26	_
	GARN	40	223	248	151	243	384	55	1,115	82	147	44	31
	CJ	134	378	116	99	281	126	962	91	194	197	60	85
	CCON ·	-	64	60	4	213	51	606	3	149	9	1,835	-
	PH	932	112	= n	17	34	213	124	193	20	157	343	11
	DECL	335	176	171	139	235	218	119	117	201	222	235	107
TA B	ОТ	1,496	94	165	46	120	69	130	172	49	49	52	11
	сомз	401	4	177	156	85	326	95	149	153	323	102	170
	AN	834	240	124	40	-	110	76	124	172	64	172	_
	ITOR	213	197	102	348	149	346	90	125	232	177	128	164
	REIU	231	1	160	161	278	123	85	208	442	7	174	137
	TRAN	213	_	380	128	203	30	149	11	250	101	85	78
1788	GAPO	109	115	258	190	136	146	357	164	95	112	119	68
	JASC	270	9	371	40		55	199	47	108	15	515	57
	NC	5	212	117	197	133	207	117	75	244	98	212	150
	WILL	275	939	366	257	_	_	19	48	69	14	96	32
35.76	PART	198	75	188	142	117	192	60	59	125	140	256	121
	VS		34	14	120	1,013	172	103	56	34		52	69
	AL	124	81/88/1/11/11/12/15/15 -	, T		O5050 4,030	-	1,737	109	-	25		_
	GAUD	146	153	92	156	77	133	88	164	117	236	145	159
	PET3	91	101	47	53	43	128	4	803	64	177	-	57
	PROD		217	35	116	87	120	35	87	223	546		58
	ESTB	248	174	243	203	174	243	-		99	25	261	_
	CVS		1,670	13	-	-	6	-	-	9	5 -	32	_
	INJ	183	139	111	121	128	115	102	64	94	162	117	71



	COND	Albem 91	<u>Arlin</u>	Chesa 55	Chest 82	Hanov 107	Henri 98	Newpo 64	Norfo 5	Princ 296	Richm 37	Spots 341	Staff 121
Civil	PET2	74	34	34	6	69	82	34	708	59	137	-	23
1878	QT	198	75	81	71	149	132	51	67	125	85	149	78
	CNST	138	96	39	16	289	58	_	12	41	14	48	-
	PET5	32	57	34	26	42	62	23	481	40	84	23	35
	RE	194	140	92	94	221	82	10	13	53	32	51	6
	WHC	73	84	47	68	59	103	47	94	46	61	110	59
4.7	IC	15	5	9	-	-	-	-		40	978		-
5	ANUL	25	34	55	52	52	117	48	150	103	5	103	92
	SS	36	17	54	113	34	82	54	89	5	97	153	57
	MECH	76	219	17	135	64	68	13	24	61	107	75	28
	CHPR	51	67	25	16	123	41	1	26	124	29	90	119
	ROMC	110	53		48	56	49	11	11	23	47	58	33
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# 15th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

#### Counties of:

- Stafford
- Spotsylvania
- Caroline
- Hanover
- King George
- Westmoreland
- Essex
- Lancaster
- Richmond
- Northumberland

### City of:

Fredericksburg

# **REQUEST FOR AN ADDITIONAL JUDGE**

# 15th Judicial Circuit

# **Circuit Court Judges**

**Gordon Willis** 

J. Overton Harris

Sarah L. Deneke

Michael E. Levy, Chief Judge

**Patricia Kelly** 

**Herbert M. Hewitt** 

Victoria A.B. Willis

R. Michael McKenney

Ricardo Rigual

William E. Glover

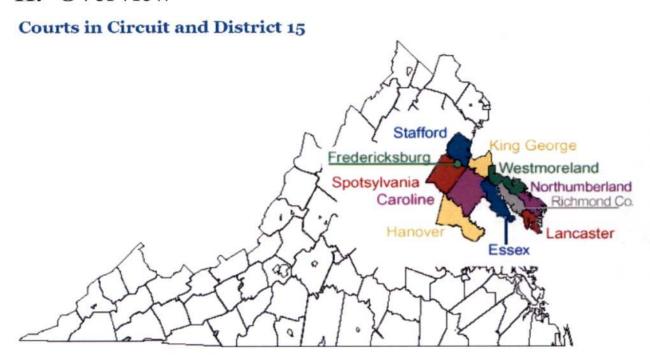
J. Bruce Strickland

# I. Introduction

The 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit is seeking an additional judge due to an increase in population, an increase in jury trials, over-booked dockets, longer, multi-day trials, the necessary use of interpreters, and the increase in complex civil litigation. The 15<sup>th</sup> Circuit has 11 jurisdictions, the most of any Circuit in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Supreme Court is in the process of conducting a Judicial Workload Assessment. The timing of the Assessment has not been released. The previous Workload Assessment, conducted in 2017, quantified the time required for certain tasks performed by judges and assigned values based on those times. When applying the mathematical equation developed by the previous assessment to the current numbers available to the Supreme Court, the 15<sup>th</sup> requires a new position. However, numbers alone do not address the problem for the 15<sup>th</sup> Circuit.

# II. Overview



The 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit covers 2,859.12 square miles<sup>1</sup>, stretching from Mile Marker 148 on Interstate 95 on the northern border to Mile Marker 86 on the southern border, and from the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains on the western border to the Chesapeake Bay on the eastern border. The 11 separate jurisdictions cover all types of population centers: Urban, High-Density Suburban, Suburban, and Rural.

In order to understand the unique problems facing this jurisdiction, the 15<sup>th</sup> is best viewed as two distinct areas: the 95 Corridor and King George/Northern Neck. The 95 corridor includes Stafford, the City of Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania, Caroline, and Hanover. King George/Northern Neck includes King George, Westmoreland, Northumberland, Richmond County, Lancaster, and Essex.

The 95 corridor is the busiest and most populated area in the 15<sup>th</sup>. Nine of the eleven judges assigned to the 15<sup>th</sup> cover these five jurisdictions. The counties of King George and the Northern Neck cover an extensive geographical area but are less populated than the other counties so only two judges are assigned to cover those six jurisdictions.

## The Population and Congestion Problem

As of 2020, 553,287 people reside in the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit. According to the United States Census Bureau, Virginia has seen an overall population growth of 7.4-7.9% since 2010. However, the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit has seen almost double that at 13.09%.<sup>2</sup> The 15th Circuit is one of the largest, and fastest-growing areas in Virginia, and the judicial workload reflects that.

#### Census Information & Chart:

<sup>1</sup> http://www.usa.com/rank/virginia-state--land-area--county-rank.htm Each counties square miles

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> According to the Virginia 2020 Census:

County	2010 Population	2020 Population	Change	Growth %
Stafford	128,961	156,927	27,966	21.7
Spotsylvania	122,397	140,032	17,635	14.4
Caroline	28,545	30,887	2,342	8.2
Hanover	99,863	109,979	10,116	10.1
King George	23,584	26,723	3,139	13.3
Westmoreland	17,454	18,477	1,023	5.9
Northumberland	12,330	11,839	-491	-4.0
Richmond County	9,254	8,923	-331	-3.6
Lancaster	11,391	10,919	-472	-4.1
Essex	11,151	10,599	-552	-5.0
Fredericksburg City	24,286	27,982	3,696	15.2
Total	489,216	553,287	64,071	13.09%

These numbers help explain the increase in the workload of the 15<sup>th</sup>. Along with increased population comes increased traffic which equates to increased caseloads. Interstate 95 (I-95) is the primary highway for moving travelers north or south along the East Coast of the United States. I-95 runs through four of the counties in the 15<sup>th</sup>, Caroline, Hanover, Spotsylvania, and Stafford. In 2017, a portion of I-95 in Stafford and Spotsylvania Counties led the nation in traffic congestion with nearly 1,400 traffic jams that stretched 6.47 miles.<sup>3</sup> The increase

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.insidenova.com/news/transportation/study-worst-traffic-in-the-nation-on-i-95-through-prince-william-stafford-fairfax/article

in the number of people who pass through the counties, causes an increase in both criminal and civil litigation in those counties.

#### **Overview of Current Judicial Resources**

Each judge in the 15th is sitting somewhere every day of the week, with some exceptions in the Northern Neck, where the judge might have a day during the month where he or she is not on the bench due to scheduling conflicts in those courts. (See Exhibit 1 Current schedule) The two judges who cover King George and the Northern Neck cannot cover cases on the 95 corridor because they are required to cover six jurisdictions, five days a week, some of which require multiday coverage. This leaves nine judges to cover the 95 corridor, the busiest area in the 15th. The net effect of this schedule is a backlog of work on the 95 corridor because the two judges who cover King George and the Northern Neck cannot be spread any thinner to assist on the 95 corridor, as they must maintain the smaller counties despite smaller caseloads.

Currently, every jurisdiction in the 15<sup>th</sup> is exceeding recommended guidelines for the completion of both civil and criminal cases. (See Exhibit 2 – Executive Summary).

#### The Jurisdictions

Stafford County, at the northern end of the Circuit, has seen a dramatic increase in population over the last ten years. In addition to a heavy criminal docket and requests for jury trials, Stafford has been experiencing an increase in filings in complex divorce cases. This combination is forcing longer days in court and more backlog. In addition to three judges five days per week, Stafford schedules a judge designate one day per week to try to alleviate the backlog. This effort is failing. (See Exhibit 2) Stafford courts use the Board of Supervisors room as a courtroom one day per week to hear civil cases. Despite caseload demands, Stafford County's physical plant will not accommodate another judge at this time.

**Fredericksburg** has one judge five days per week and another judge two days a week, for a total of seven court days per week. Fredericksburg has the largest and most advanced hospital facility in the area and has a large medical community that supports it. As a result, Fredericksburg has the highest number of medical malpractice cases within the 15<sup>th</sup>. These cases usually take five full trial days. When there is a five-day trial, the other judge who sits in Fredericksburg two days a week can cover the criminal docket for those two days, but a designate has to be brought in to cover at least one of the remaining three days because the court cannot go three days without addressing criminal matters. Additionally, Fredericksburg has a very active drug court that meets every Monday in the afternoon. This necessitates setting aside every Monday afternoon to meet with the treatment team and hold drug court.

Caroline County has court three days per week, two criminal and one civil. Currently, the judge who sits in Caroline on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday sits in Fredericksburg on Monday and Tuesday. The only day for civil cases in Caroline is on Friday, which means that Caroline is unable to schedule multi-day civil trials unless coverage can be found to cover both days (Monday and Tuesday) in Fredericksburg, or time is taken from the criminal docket. Due to the increase in requests for criminal jury trials, the Court cannot take days from the criminal docket. This necessitates using a designate in Fredericksburg on Monday and Tuesday or in Caroline on Monday and Tuesday. Caroline has seen an increase in multi-day civil trials due to the increasing population.

Spotsylvania County has seen a dramatic increase in population. The available numbers from the District Courts in this jurisdiction show an increase in filings of 112% over the past year. This increase trickles up to Circuit Court in appeals and increases the Court's docket. Spotsylvania currently schedules 12 to 14 hours per day in court. Spotsylvania has two judges five days a week for a total of 10 court days per week. Spotsylvania schedules a designate on other days. Spotsylvania has a Veterans Court Docket and a Behavioral Health Docket which both require setting aside time to address those needs.

Hanover, at the southern end of the jurisdiction, has seen a steady increase in population and filings. In the past ten years, Hanover has gone from one judge five days a week to two judges five days a week for a total of 14 court days per week. Hanover schedules court all 14 days and segments the docket with the last hearing scheduled as late as 3:30 in the afternoon. Even with doubling the number of days over the past 10 years, and scheduling full days, Hanover has a back log in scheduling. For example, Hanover schedules 50 probation violations a month and is currently scheduling probation violations 120 days out due to lack of docket time. Due to an increase in requests for jury trials and speedy trial issues, the Court has had to take time from the civil docket to accommodate the criminal docket. Hanover is currently using a designate one day per week. Hanover attempted to start a Drug Treatment Court but due in part to an increasing criminal docket, the specialty court could not be maintained.

**King George County** increased from two days per week to three days per week within the past five years. King George is experiencing the same issues as Caroline when trying to schedule multi-day trials, because the judge who sits in King George also covers Westmoreland every week and Essex some of the time.

Westmoreland, Essex, Richmond County and Lancaster (Northern Neck Counties) are covered by one judge plus part of another judge. Some of the counties need a judge more than one day a week, but all need a judge at least one day per week. Each of these counties has a fully functioning court system that requires attention and administration. Furthermore, multi-day trials in the Northern Neck provide their own scheduling problems as the two judges responsible for this area must cover so much ground. Westmoreland also has a very active drug court which meets weekly.

The number of jurisdictions and the geographical area of the 15<sup>th</sup> present unique challenges that cannot be addressed solely by looking at numbers. However, even when looking at just the numbers, an additional position is required in order to support the 15th. (see Exhibit 3 – Judicial Workload Comparison – showing Spotsylvania and Hanover as number 1 and 2 from September 2019 to August

2002 and Exhibit 3B as number 1 and 3 from July 2020 to June 2023 when compared to similarly situated jurisdictions.)

# III. The numbers/Workload Information

#### Judicial Workload/Actual Numbers

From 2014 to 2021 (including COVID years of 2020 and 2021 with decreased filings) the 11 jurisdictions of the 15th handled the following number of cases:

- Caroline 13,111 total filings with 4,559 CHP = 8,552
- Essex 4,464 total filings with 1,568 CHP = 2,896
- Fredericksburg 24,638 total filings with 2,072 CHP = 22,566
- Hanover -50,908 total filings with 16,248 CHP = 34,660
- King George 9,791 total filings with 2,473 CHP =7,318
- Lancaster 4,501 total filings with 1,654 CHP = 2,847
- Northumberland 4,916 total filings with 2,014 CHP = 2,902
- Richmond -3,094 total filings with 1,081 CHP = 2,013
- Spotsylvania 51,371 total filings with 19,818 CHP = 31,553
- Stafford 59,766 total filings with 20,388 CHP = 39,378

(\*CHP denotes number of concealed weapon permit requests that are subtracted from the total because they are only addressed by a judge in certain instances)

#### **Juries**

The number of jury trials is increasing through-out the 15<sup>th</sup> Circuit. (Exhibit 7a). The number of days required to accommodate those trials shows a steady increase from 2020 to 2022. If the trend continues, 2023 will surpass 2022. A review of the recent numbers available from the Supreme Court show the 15<sup>th</sup> Circuit was 5<sup>th</sup> for number of juries per judge for 2022 and 2<sup>nd</sup> for number of juries per judge so far for 2023. (Exhibit 7b) Jury trials are generally scheduled

for an entire day or for multiple days. Other cases still need to be heard on those days. In order to hear other cases on those days, in some jurisdiction within the 15<sup>th</sup> Circuit, Judge Designates are brought in to preside over a separate docket.

## Judicial Workload/Weighted Case Study

In 2017 the Virginia Supreme Court worked with the National Center for State Courts to revise and update the weighted caseload system used to measure work done in the Virginia Court system. One of the purposes of the study was to develop a mathematically based equation to determine the number of judges needed per jurisdiction. The project was managed by the Judicial Needs Assessment Committee which consists of 15 judges and 3 court clerks from different localities. The assessment has become the new standard for measuring and monitoring judicial workload. A copy of the assessment is attached at (Exhibit 8) for convenience. The study concluded that the accepted range for workload per judge is .9-1.15. The 15<sup>th</sup> currently has a workload of 1.01. (See Exhibit 4) If a new judge is added to the 15<sup>th</sup> the workload would be reduced to .93 which is still well above the minimum acceptable range.

The 15th Judicial Circuit Judge Allocation by Workload

County	Workload	Judges per day
Spotsylvania	2.67	2
Stafford	2.45	3
Hanover	2.34	2
Fredericksburg	1.42	1.4
Caroline	.53	.6
King George	.42	.6
Westmoreland	.38	.5
Northumberland	.22	.2
Lancaster	.22	.4
Essex	.20	.1
Richmond County	.16	.2
Chief Justice Admin Work	.10	N/A
Totals	11.11	11

The Judicial Workload assessment identifies the amount of work in each county by using weighted caseloads compared with the different kinds of cases a judge sees. Using this metric, the workload for each county was calculated. The 15th Circuit has an average workload of 1.01, exceeding the recommended

guidelines. (Exhibit 4) On paper it appears that some of our judges should change counties to assist with higher workload areas, but in reality the margin of time to travel between jurisdictions is such that they cannot effectively help in the other jurisdictions.

The highest caseloads per judge in the 15<sup>th</sup> are in Spotsylvania and Hanover. (See Exhibit 3 – Judicial Workload Comparison). A review of Workload Based on Filings per locality indicates that Spotsylvania should have 2.58 judges and Hanover should have 2.49 judges, for a total of 5.07 judges. (Exhibit 4) These two jurisdictions currently have 2 judges per jurisdictions, for a total of 4. Each of these jurisdictions is currently scheduling judge designates to help stem the flow of the cases on already over booked dockets. Both Spotsylvania and Hanover have shown a marked increase in filings over the past eight years. (See Exhibit 5 – Filings) This number remained steady during the 2020 and 2021 COVID period but is now on the rise again.

Even with bringing in judge designates on a regular basis in both Spotsylvania and Hanover, the 15th Circuit is failing to meet the recommended guidelines, established by the Virginia Supreme Court, for the timely completion of both civil and criminal cases. As an example, 18% of Spotsylvania's criminal cases, and 11% of civil cases were not completed within the recommended one year of filing. Hanover County is exceeding the guidelines by 16% in criminal cases and 6% in civil cases. A review of the Executive Summary data supports the conclusion that Spotsylvania County has more workload per judge than Hanover County which validates these results. A further review of the data from each jurisdiction in the 15th shows that this result holds true for every jurisdiction in the 15th. (See Exhibit 2 – Executive Summary)

On the other side of the spectrum, the lowest caseloads in the 15<sup>th</sup> are in King George and the Northern Neck. According to the assessment these six jurisdictions require 1.6 judges. (Exhibit 4) As explained above, 1.6 judges cannot cover six counties. While the data shows only 1.6 judges are needed,

there is no way to sufficiently cover all six of those jurisdictions with only 1.6 judges.

#### Relief Efforts

Each of these counties has recognized a need for increased court time. When Spotsylvania County built a new Circuit Court in 2011, they finished three courtrooms, 2 of which are used full time and a third which is used by the designate. In addition to that, due to the need for increased space, Spotsylvania County recently completed a multimillion-dollar renovation to the District Courts building. Similarly, Hanover County has just completed a multimillion-dollar renovation of a third Circuit Court room. Finally, King George County is in the process of building a new courthouse facility to accommodate the increased need for space. The two counties that most need the assistance, namely Spotsylvania County and Hanover County, both have courtrooms to accommodate another rotating full-time judge.

The new position will not be used to address the backlog in Stafford because the Stafford County Board of Supervisors has refused to authorize construction on a new courthouse facility, despite being on notice of significant security issues, inadequate facilities and increasing backlog.

## The Designate Problem

As outlined above, a number of jurisdictions within the 15<sup>th</sup> are using Judge Designates on a regular basis. The problem with relying on designates is that there are only so many Judge Designates to go around. Spotsylvania and Hanover use some of the same Designates. These jurisdictions are not always able to cover their caseload with available Designates. Finally, for obvious reasons, Designates do not usually want to cover complex multi-day cases

# IV. Summary

The 15th Judicial Circuit is requesting the allocation and authorization of an additional Judge to assist in administering Justice to the citizens of our counties in a timely manner.

The reasons for this request are:

- The 15th Judicial Circuit has the largest number of jurisdictions of any jurisdiction in the Commonwealth.
- The 15th has a high Judicial Workload per judge as established by the Judicial Workload Assessment's metrics.
- The unique scheduling problems created by the unique geographical conditions of the Northern Neck and 95 corridor within the 15th Circuit
- A steadily increasing caseload in many of the counties of the 15th
- The 15th has one of the fastest growing population in Virginia
- The 15th covers Urban, High-density suburban, suburban and rural communities.

The 15<sup>th</sup> Circuit would utilize a new judge by adjusting the overall staffing within the jurisdiction to allocate resources more effectively, with the primary focus being Hanover and Spotsylvania. If approved, the new position will be assigned primarily to the Counties of Spotsylvania and Hanover, the jurisdictions that are most in need of assistance. Both the numbers and the geographical challenges demonstrate a need for the additional position. For all of the reasons stated, the judges of the 15<sup>th</sup> Circuit respectfully request that the Judicial Council recommend an additional judge for the Circuit.

# Exhibit 1

**Current Judicial Assignments** 

## Schedule for the Judges of the 15th Judicial Circuit:

Caroline: 1 judge 3 days a week (Judge Deneke, 2 criminal and 1 civil)

Fredericksburg: 1 judge 5 days a week, 1 judge for 2 days (Judge Willis 5 day;

Judge Deneke 2 days)

Essex: 1 judge 2 to 3 days a month (Judge Hewitt or Judge McKenney)

Hanover: 2 judges 5 days a week (Judge Harris and Judge Kelly)

King George: 1 judge 2 days a week plus 1 judge on 3 Tuesdays and 1 judge on

5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday (Judge Hewitt)

Lancaster: 1 judge 1 day a week, with extra days weekly as needed (Judge

McKenney)

Northumberland: 1 judge 1 day a week (Judge McKenney)

Richmond County: 1 judge 1 day a week (Judge McKenney)

Stafford: 3 judges 5 days a week (Judge Levy (Chief), Judge Willis, Judge

Strickland)

Spotsylvania: 2 judges 5 days a week (Judge Rigual and Judge Glover)

Westmoreland: 1 judge 2 or 3 days a week plus every Thursday afternoon for Drug Court (Judge Hewitt and Judge McKenney; Judge McKenney does Drug Court on Thursdays)

For the Counties of Essex, King George, Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond and Westmoreland, the schedule is very flexible and changes monthly; any of those courts may gain or lose days depending on the need for multi-day trials in any jurisdiction.

Lancaster uses extra days every month and usually every week – heavy criminal load and complex/heavy civil load with lengthy hearings.

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Lancaster uses extra days every month and usually every week – heavy criminal load and complex/heavy civil load with lengthy hearings.

# Exhibit 2

**Executive Summary** 

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** May 08, 2023

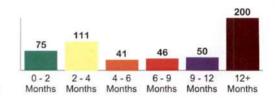
15

Criminal Pending Docket (CCMS CR03)

Total	523	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 2 Months	75	75	14%
2 - 4 Months	111	186	36%
4 - 6 Months	41	227	43%
6 - 9 Months	46	273	52%
9 - 12 Months	50	323	62%
12+ Months	200	523	100%

171 or 33%

of pending



CCMS CR18 Criminal Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 120 Days or Less	278	34%
98 % in 180 Days or Less	411	50%
100 % in 365 Days or Less	645	79%
Exceeding Guidelines	173	21%
	818	

or Less 79%



33% % of Hearings

CCMS CV03 Active Civil Pending

Total	93	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	42	42	45%
3 - 4 Months	4	46	49%
4 - 12 Months	18	64	69%
12 - 18 Months	11	75	81%
18 - 24 Months	4	79	85%
24+ Months	14	93	100%

or Less 69%



CCMS CV08 No Action Report

Total	153	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 6 Months	22	22	14%
6 - 12 Months	26	48	31%
12 - 18 Months	34	82	54%
18 - 24 Months	17	99	65%
24 - 36 Months	33	132	86%
36+ Months	21	153	100%

or Less 31%



CIVIL PENDING DOCKET (CCMS CV09)

Total	211	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	48	48	23%
3 - 4 Months	5	53	25%
4 - 12 Months	44	97	46%
12 - 18 Months	37	134	64%
18 - 24 Months	17	151	72%
24+ Months	60	211	100%

or Less 46%



CCMS CV18 Civil Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 12 Months or Less	148	78%
98 % in 18 Months or Less	166	87%
100 % in 24 Months or Less	176	93%
Exceeding Guidelines	15	8%
	191	

12 Months or Less

93%

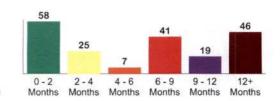
16% % of Hearings

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** May 08, 2023

Criminal Pending Docket (CCMS CR03)

Total	196	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 2 Months	58	58	30%
2 - 4 Months	25	83	42%
4 - 6 Months	7	90	46%
6 - 9 Months	41	131	67%
9 - 12 Months	19	150	77%
12+ Months	46	196	100%

28 or 14% of pending



CCMS CR18 Criminal Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 120 Days or Less	127	48%
98 % in 180 Days or Less	154	58%
100 % in 365 Days or Less	218	82%
<b>Exceeding Guidelines</b>	49	18%
	267	

12 Months or Less 82%



59% of Hearings

CCMS CV03 Active Civil Pending

Total	35	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	6	6	17%
3 - 4 Months	4	10	29%
4 - 12 Months	8	18	51%
12 - 18 Months	6	24	69%
18 - 24 Months	2	26	74%
24+ Months	9	35	100%

or Less 51%



CCMS CV08 No Action Report

Total	65	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 6 Months	11	11	17%
6 - 12 Months	5	16	25%
12 - 18 Months	10	26	40%
18 - 24 Months	9	35	54%
24 - 36 Months	12	47	72%
36+ Months	18	65	100%

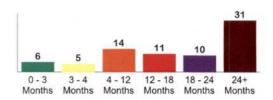
or Less 25%



CIVIL PENDING DOCKET (CCMS CV09)

Total	77	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	6	6	8%
3 - 4 Months	5	11	14%
4 - 12 Months	14	25	32%
12 - 18 Months	11	36	47%
18 - 24 Months	10	46	60%
24+ Months	31	77	100%

12 Months or Less 32%



CCMS CV18 Civil Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 12 Months or Less	26	57%
98 % in 18 Months or Less	33	72%
100 % in 24 Months or Less	37	81%
Exceeding Guidelines	10	21%
19	47	

12 Months or Less

24 Months or Less 81% 35% % of Hearings Criminal Pending Docket (CCMS CR03)

Tota	1 1,394	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 2 Months	249	249	18%
2 - 4 Months	396	645	46%
4 - 6 Months	162	807	58%
6 - 9 Months	173	980	70%
9 - 12 Months	114	1,094	78%
12+ Months	300	1,394	100%

Fugitives
613
or
44%
of pending



CCMS CR18 Criminal Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 120 Days or Less	1,238	52%
98 % in 180 Days or Less	1,546	65%
100 % in 365 Days or Less	1,960	83%
Exceeding Guidelines	412	17%
	2,372	

or Less 83%



23% % of Hearings

CCMS CV03 Active Civil Pending

Total	122	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	44	44	36%
3 - 4 Months	6	50	41%
4 - 12 Months	28	78	64%
12 - 18 Months	14	92	75%
18 - 24 Months	9	101	83%
24+ Months	21	122	100%

or Less 64%



CCMS CV08 No Action Report

Total	266	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 6 Months	70	70	26%
6 - 12 Months	46	116	44%
12 - 18 Months	23	139	52%
18 - 24 Months	42	181	68%
24 - 36 Months	42	223	84%
36+ Months	43	266	100%

12 Months or Less 44%



CIVIL PENDING DOCKET (CCMS CV09)

Total	309	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	75	75	24%
3 - 4 Months	15	90	29%
4 - 12 Months	68	158	51%
12 - 18 Months	24	182	59%
18 - 24 Months	42	224	72%
24+ Months	85	309	100%

or Less 51%



24 Months or Less

CCMS CV18 Civil Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 12 Months or Less	348	80%
98 % in 18 Months or Less	381	87%
100 % in 24 Months or Less	402	92%
Exceeding Guidelines	35	8%

12 Months or Less

0% 92

12% % of Hearings

437

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** May 08, 2023

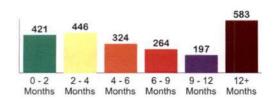
15

Criminal Pending Docket (CCMS CR03)

Total	2,235	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 2 Months	421	421	19%
2 - 4 Months	446	867	39%
4 - 6 Months	324	1,191	53%
6 - 9 Months	264	1,455	65%
9 - 12 Months	197	1,652	74%
12+ Months	583	2,235	100%

798 or 36%

of pending



CCMS CR18 Criminal Concluded Cases Report

	3,640	
Exceeding Guidelines	578	16%
100 % in 365 Days or Less	3,062	84%
98 % in 180 Days or Less	2,364	65%
90 % in 120 Days or Less	1,906	52%
	Summary	Cumul ative %

12 Months or Less 84%

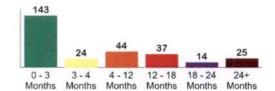


19% % of Hearings

CCMS CV03 Active Civil Pending

Total	287	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	143	143	50%
3 - 4 Months	24	167	58%
4 - 12 Months	44	211	74%
12 - 18 Months	37	248	86%
18 - 24 Months	14	262	91%
24+ Months	25	287	100%

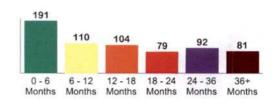
12 Months or Less 74%



CCMS CV08 No Action Report

Total	657	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 6 Months	191	191	29%
6 - 12 Months	110	301	46%
12 - 18 Months	104	405	62%
18 - 24 Months	79	484	74%
24 - 36 Months	92	576	88%
36+ Months	81	657	100%

12 Months or Less 46%



CIVIL PENDING DOCKET (CCMS CV09)

Total	860	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	174	174	20%
3 - 4 Months	88	262	30%
4 - 12 Months	214	476	55%
12 - 18 Months	122	598	70%
18 - 24 Months	84	682	79%
24+ Months	178	860	100%

12 Months or Less 55%



CCMS CV18 Civil Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 12 Months or Less	875	79%
98 % in 18 Months or Less	1,004	91%
100 % in 24 Months or Less	1,037	94%
Exceeding Guidelines	66	6%
	1,103	

12 Months or Less

94%

18% % of Hearings

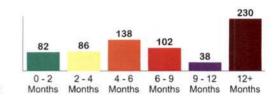
# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** May 08, 2023

15

Criminal Pending Docket (CCMS CR03)

Total	676	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 2 Months	82	82	12%
2 - 4 Months	86	168	25%
4 - 6 Months	138	306	45%
6 - 9 Months	102	408	60%
9 - 12 Months	38	446	66%
12+ Months	230	676	100%

Fugitives
229
or
34%
of pending



CCMS CR18 Criminal Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 120 Days or Less	258	34%
98 % in 180 Days or Less	364	47%
100 % in 365 Days or Less	565	74%
Exceeding Guidelines	205	27%
.,	770	

or Less 73%



21% % of Hearings

CCMS CV03 Active Civil Pending

Total	41	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	11	11	27%
3 - 4 Months	2	13	32%
4 - 12 Months	11	24	59%
12 - 18 Months	5	29	71%
18 - 24 Months	4	33	80%
24+ Months	8	41	100%

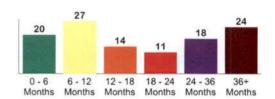
or Less 59%



CCMS CV08 No Action Report

Total	114	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 6 Months	20	20	18%
6 - 12 Months	27	47	41%
12 - 18 Months	14	61	54%
18 - 24 Months	11	72	63%
24 - 36 Months	18	90	79%
36+ Months	24	114	100%

12 Months or Less 41%



CIVIL PENDING DOCKET (CCMS CV09)

Total	127	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	16	16	13%
3 - 4 Months	6	22	17%
4 - 12 Months	38	60	47%
12 - 18 Months	14	74	58%
18 - 24 Months	11	85	67%
24+ Months	42	127	100%

12 Months or Less 47%



CCMS CV18 Civil Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 12 Months or Less	66	66%
98 % in 18 Months or Less	77	76%
100 % in 24 Months or Less	83	82%
Exceeding Guidelines	19	19%
	100	

12 Months or Less

24 Months or Less 82% 21% % of Hearings

102

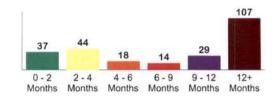
## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** May 08, 2023

15

Criminal Pending Docket (CCMS CR03)

Total	249	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 2 Months	37	37	15%
2 - 4 Months	44	81	33%
4 - 6 Months	18	99	40%
6 - 9 Months	14	113	45%
9 - 12 Months	29	142	57%
12+ Months	107	249	100%

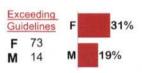
Fugitives
49
or
20%
of pending



CCMS CR18 Criminal Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 120 Days or Less	96	30%
98 % in 180 Days or Less	154	48%
100 % in 365 Days or Less	234	73%
Exceeding Guidelines	87	27%
	321	

12 Months or Less 73%

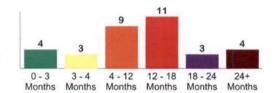


41% % of Hearings

CCMS CV03 Active Civil Pending

Total	34	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	4	4	12%
3 - 4 Months	3	7	21%
4 - 12 Months	9	16	47%
12 - 18 Months	11	27	79%
18 - 24 Months	3	30	88%
24+ Months	4	34	100%

or Less 47%



CCMS CV08 No Action Report

Total	77	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 6 Months	20	20	26%
6 - 12 Months	8	28	36%
12 - 18 Months	15	43	56%
18 - 24 Months	8	51	66%
24 - 36 Months	7	58	75%
36+ Months	19	77	100%

or Less 36%



CIVIL PENDING DOCKET (CCMS CV09)

Total	86	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	5	5	6%
3 - 4 Months	12	17	20%
4 - 12 Months	16	33	38%
12 - 18 Months	16	49	57%
18 - 24 Months	9	58	67%
24+ Months	28	86	100%

or Less 38%



CCMS CV18 Civil Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 12 Months or Less	50	73%
98 % in 18 Months or Less	58	84%
100 % in 24 Months or Less	65	94%
Exceeding Guidelines	5	7%
	70	

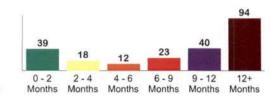
710/<sub>6</sub>

24 Months or Less 94%

Criminal Pending Docket (CCMS CR03)

Total	226	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 2 Months	39	39	17%
2 - 4 Months	18	57	25%
4 - 6 Months	12	69	31%
6 - 9 Months	23	92	41%
9 - 12 Months	40	132	58%
12+ Months	94	226	100%

Fugitives
41
or
18%
of pending



CCMS CR18 Criminal Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 120 Days or Less	79	23%
98 % in 180 Days or Less	162	46%
100 % in 365 Days or Less	272	78%
<b>Exceeding Guidelines</b>	80	23%
***************************************	352	

or Less 77%



33% % of Hearings

CCMS CV03 Active Civil Pending

Total	32	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	9	9	28%
3 - 4 Months	4	13	41%
4 - 12 Months	11	24	75%
12 - 18 Months	2	26	81%
18 - 24 Months	2	28	88%
24+ Months	4	32	100%

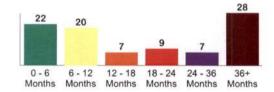
12 Months or Less 75%



CCMS CV08 No Action Report

Total	93	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 6 Months	22	22	24%
6 - 12 Months	20	42	45%
12 - 18 Months	7	49	53%
18 - 24 Months	9	58	62%
24 - 36 Months	7	65	70%
36+ Months	28	93	100%

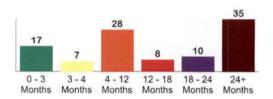
or Less 45%



CIVIL PENDING DOCKET (CCMS CV09)

Total	105	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	17	17	16%
3 - 4 Months	7	24	23%
4 - 12 Months	28	52	50%
12 - 18 Months	8	60	57%
18 - 24 Months	10	70	67%
24+ Months	35	105	100%

or Less 50%



CCMS CV18 Civil Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 12 Months or Less	55	64%
98 % in 18 Months or Less	65	76%
100 % in 24 Months or Less	67	78%
Exceeding Guidelines	20	23%
*	87	

12 Months or Less

78%

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** May 08, 2023

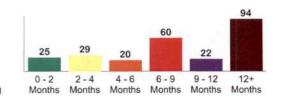
# ichmond County

15

Criminal Pending Docket (CCMS CR03)

Total	250	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 2 Months	25	25	10%
2 - 4 Months	29	54	22%
4 - 6 Months	20	74	30%
6 - 9 Months	60	134	54%
9 - 12 Months	22	156	62%
12+ Months	94	250	100%

38 or 15% of pending



CCMS CR18 Criminal Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 120 Days or Less	81	34%
98 % in 180 Days or Less	110	46%
100 % in 365 Days or Less	173	72%
Exceeding Guidelines	70	29%
<del>.</del>	243	

12 Months or Less 71%

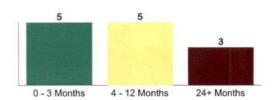


26% % of Hearings

CCMS CV03 Active Civil Pending

Total	13	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	5	5	38%
4 - 12 Months	5	10	77%
24+ Months	3	13	100%

12 Months or Less 77%



CCMS CV08 No Action Report

Total	33	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 6 Months	6	6	18%
6 - 12 Months	2	8	24%
12 - 18 Months	1	9	27%
18 - 24 Months	5	14	42%
24 - 36 Months	4	18	55%
36+ Months	15	33	100%

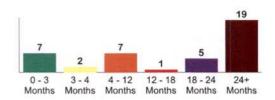
12 Months or Less 24%



CIVIL PENDING DOCKET (CCMS CV09)

Total	41	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	7	7	17%
3 - 4 Months	2	9	22%
4 - 12 Months	7	16	39%
12 - 18 Months	1	17	41%
18 - 24 Months	5	22	54%
24+ Months	19	41	100%

12 Months or Less 39%



CCMS CV18 Civil Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 12 Months or Less	39	71%
98 % in 18 Months or Less	45	82%
100 % in 24 Months or Less	51	93%
Exceeding Guidelines	5	9%
	56	

70%

24 Months or Less 93%

Criminal Pending Docket (CCMS CR03)

Tota	1 2,965	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 2 Months	565	565	19%
2 - 4 Months	643	1,208	41%
4 - 6 Months	394	1,602	54%
6 - 9 Months	388	1,990	67%
9 - 12 Months	199	2,189	74%
12+ Months	776	2,965	100%

**Fugitives** 990 or 33% of pending



CCMS CR18 Criminal Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 120 Days or Less	1,681	44%
98 % in 180 Days or Less	2,213	57%
100 % in 365 Days or Less	3,155	82%
Exceeding Guidelines	711	18%
	3,866	

12 Months or Less 82%



Continuance Rate % of Hearings

**CCMS CV03 Active Civil** Pending

Total	271	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	74	74	27%
3 - 4 Months	15	89	33%
4 - 12 Months	90	179	66%
12 - 18 Months	34	213	79%
18 - 24 Months	26	239	88%
24+ Months	32	271	100%

12 Months or Less 66%



CCMS CV08 No Action Report

Total	735	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 6 Months	135	135	18%
6 - 12 Months	146	281	38%
12 - 18 Months	104	385	52%
18 - 24 Months	89	474	64%
24 - 36 Months	132	606	82%
36+ Months	129	735	100%

12 Months or Less 38%



CIVIL **PENDING** DOCKET (CCMS CV09)

Total	831	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	109	109	13%
3 - 4 Months	39	148	18%
4 - 12 Months	219	367	44%
12 - 18 Months	107	474	57%
18 - 24 Months	92	566	68%
24+ Months	265	831	100%

12 Months or Less 44%



CCMS CV18 Civil Concluded Cases Report

5/17/23

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 12 Months or Less	567	73%
98 % in 18 Months or Less	647	83%
100 % in 24 Months or Less	695	89%
Exceeding Guidelines	84	11%
	779	

12 Months or Less

24 Months or Less

Continuance Rate % of Hearings

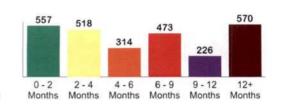
### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** May 08, 2023

15

Criminal Pending Docket (CCMS CR03)

Tota	1 2,658	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 2 Months	557	557	21%
2 - 4 Months	518	1,075	40%
4 - 6 Months	314	1,389	52%
6 - 9 Months	473	1,862	70%
9 - 12 Months	226	2,088	79%
12+ Months	570	2,658	100%





CCMS CR18 Criminal Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 120 Days or Less	1,688	44%
98 % in 180 Days or Less	2,318	61%
100 % in 365 Days or Less	3,153	83%
Exceeding Guidelines	646	17%
	3,799	

or Less 83%

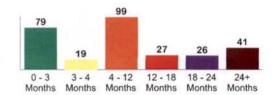


29% % of Hearings

CCMS CV03 Active Civil Pending

Total	291	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	79	79	27%
3 - 4 Months	19	98	34%
4 - 12 Months	99	197	68%
12 - 18 Months	27	224	77%
18 - 24 Months	26	250	86%
24+ Months	41	291	100%

12 Months or Less



CCMS CV08 No Action Report

Total	1,414	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 6 Months	157	157	11%
6 - 12 Months	231	388	27%
12 - 18 Months	168	556	39%
18 - 24 Months	173	729	52%
24 - 36 Months	317	1,046	74%
36+ Months	368	1,414	100%

12 Months or Less 27%



CIVIL PENDING DOCKET (CCMS CV09)

Total	1,508	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	113	113	7%
3 - 4 Months	52	165	11%
4 - 12 Months	314	479	32%
12 - 18 Months	168	647	43%
18 - 24 Months	176	823	55%
24+ Months	685	1,508	100%

or Less 32%



CCMS CV18 Civil Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 12 Months or Less	219	58%
98 % in 18 Months or Less	270	71%
100 % in 24 Months or Less	311	82%
Exceeding Guidelines	71	19%
	382	

12 Months or Less

82%

Criminal Pending Docket (CCMS CR03)

Total	648	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 2 Months	82	82	13%
2 - 4 Months	66	148	23%
4 - 6 Months	36	184	28%
6 - 9 Months	120	304	47%
9 - 12 Months	41	345	53%
12+ Months	303	648	100%

**Fugitives** 47 or 7%



CCMS CR18 Criminal Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 120 Days or Less	203	35%
98 % in 180 Days or Less	269	46%
100 % in 365 Days or Less	404	69%
Exceeding Guidelines	184	31%
-	588	

12 Months or Less 69%

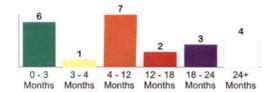


Continuance Rate % of Hearings

CCMS CV03 **Active Civil** Pending

Total	23	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	6	6	26%
3 - 4 Months	1	7	30%
4 - 12 Months	7	14	61%
12 - 18 Months	2	16	70%
18 - 24 Months	3	19	83%
24+ Months	4	23	100%

12 Months or Less 61%



**CCMS CV08** No Action Report

Total	86	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 6 Months	21	21	24%
6 - 12 Months	26	47	55%
12 - 18 Months	13	60	70%
18 - 24 Months	8	68	79%
24 - 36 Months	10	78	91%
36+ Months	8	86	100%

12 Months or Less 55%



CIVIL PENDING DOCKET (CCMS CV09)

Total	92	Cumulative	Cumulative %
0 - 3 Months	16	16	17%
3 - 4 Months	3	19	21%
4 - 12 Months	32	51	55%
12 - 18 Months	13	64	70%
18 - 24 Months	10	74	80%
24+ Months	18	92	100%

12 Months or Less 55%



24 Months or Less

CCMS CV18 Civil Concluded Cases Report

	Summary	Cumul ative %
90 % in 12 Months or Less	159	82%
98 % in 18 Months or Less	174	90%
100 % in 24 Months or Less	181	94%
Exceeding Guidelines	13	7%

12 Months or Less

Continuance Rate % of Hearings

194

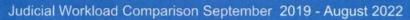
# Exhibit 3 (A&B)

Judicial Workload Comparison

A - September 2019-August 2022

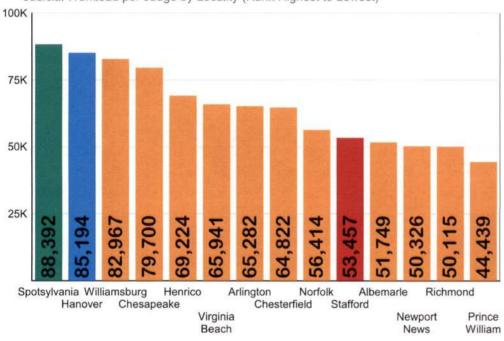
B - July 2020 - June 2023

## **CIRCUIT COURTS OF VIRGINIA**









#### Judges per Locality

Albemarle	1.4
Arlington	4.0
Chesapeake	5.0
Chesterfield	6.0
Hanover	2.0
Henrico	5.0
<b>Newport News</b>	5.0
Norfolk	8.0
Prince William	7.0
Richmond	7.0
Spotsylvania	2.0
Stafford	3.0
Virginia Beach	8.0
Williamsburg	1.0

Judicial Workload by Division and Locality

	Civil	Criminal	Total
Spotsylvania	38,912	49,481	88,392
Hanover	39,769	45,425	85,194
Williamsburg	45,712	37,255	82,967
Chesapeake	35,134	44,566	79,700
Henrico	33,020	36,205	69,224
Virginia Beach	36,900	29,041	65,941
Arlington	45,335	19,947	65,283
Chesterfield	31,559	33,263	64,822
Norfolk	35,562	20,853	56,415
Stafford	20,038	33,419	53,457
Albemarle	35,208	16,540	51,749
Newport News	25,442	24,883	50,326
Richmond	28,455	21,660	50,115

This report shows 1 Judge's judicial workload per locality, using data from September 2019 to August 2022, based on the judicial weights of the most recent Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment: https://rga.lis.virginia.gov/Published/2017/HD15/PDF

# **CIRCUIT COURTS OF VIRGINIA**

Judicial Workload Comparison September 2019 - August 2022



Civil

Criminal

Total

**Prince William** 

27,791

16,648

44,439

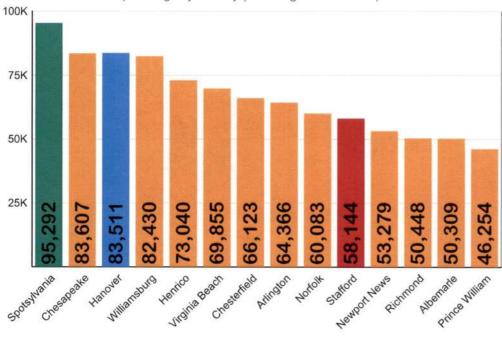
This report shows 1 Judge's judicial workload per locality, using data from September 2019 to August 2022, based on the judicial weights of the most recent Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment: https://rga.lis.virginia.gov/Published/2017/HD15/PDF

## **CIRCUIT COURTS OF VIRGINIA**

Judicial Workload Comparison July 2020 - June 2023







#### Judges per Locality

Albemarle	1.4
Arlington	4.0
Chesapeake	5.0
Chesterfield	6.0
Hanover	2.0
Henrico	5.0
Newport News	5.0
Norfolk	8.0
Prince William	7.0
Richmond	7.0
Spotsylvania	2.0
Stafford	3.0
Virginia Beach	8.0
Williamsburg	1.0

#### Judicial Workload by Division and Locality

	Civil	Criminal	Total
Spotsylvania	39,842	55,449	95,291
Chesapeake	35,803	47,804	83,607
Hanover	38,849	44,662	83,511
Williamsburg	45,169	37,261	82,430
Henrico	34,974	38,066	73,040
Virginia Beach	38,212	31,643	69,855
Chesterfield	32,396	33,728	66,123
Arlington	44,372	19,994	64,366
Norfolk	39,206	20,877	60,083
Stafford	21,100	37,044	58,144
Newport News	27,117	26,162	53,279
Richmond	28,524	21,924	50,448
Albemarle	34,444	15,865	50,309
Prince William	29,313	16,941	46,254

This report shows 1 Judge's judicial workload per locality, using data from July 2020 to June 2023, based on the judicial weights of the most recent Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment: https://rga.lis.virginia.gov/Published/2017/HD15/PDF

# Exhibit 4

Overall Judicial Workload

#### CPSS-JW Judicial Workload Based on July 2020 - June 2023 Filings

1) Judicial Workload

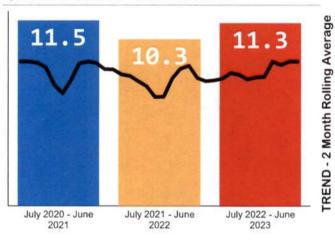
<b>11.12</b> 11.02 + 0.10	Overall Judicial Workload
11.02	Judicial Workload
0.10	Chief Judge Additional Workload
1.01	Workload Per Judge (11)
0.93	Vorkload with Additional Judge (12)
-	% of Interpreter Usage

2) Judicial Workload Based on 11 Judges

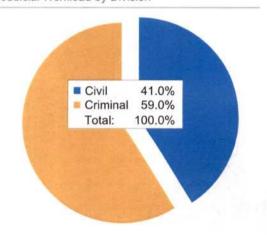
	Workload*	Based on 11 Judges**
Spotsylvania	2.67	2.67
Stafford	2.45	2.44
Hanover	2.34	2.34
Fredericksburg	1.42	1.42
Caroline	0.53	0.53
King George	0.42	0.42
Westmoreland	0.38	0.38
Northumberland	0.22	0.22
Lancaster	0.22	0.22
Essex	0.20	0.20
Richmond County	0.16	0.16
Judges	11.02	11.00

<sup>\*</sup> This column based on current workload

#### 3) Judicial Workload in 12 Month Increments



#### 4) Judicial Workload by Division



#### 5) Judicial Workload by Locality, & Division

	Car	Ess	Fre	Han	Kin	Lan	Nor	Ric	Spo	Sta	Wes	Workload
Civil	0.23	0.09	0.55	1.09	0.17	0.09	0.09	0.05	1.12	0.89	0.14	4.52
Criminal	0.30	0.11	0.87	1.25	0.26	0.12	0.13	0.11	1.56	1.56	0.24	6.50
Total	0.53	0.20	1.42	2.34	0.42	0.22	0.22	0.16	2.67	2.45	0.38	11.02

#### 6) Judicial Division Workload Percentage by Locality

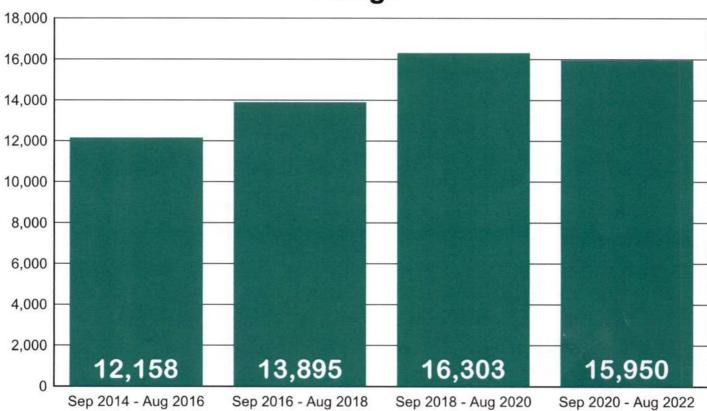
	Car	Ess	Fre	Han	Kin	<u>Lan</u>	Nor	Ric	Spo	Sta	Wes	Workload
Civil	44%	45%	39%	46%	39%	43%	42%	34%	42%	36%	37%	41%
Criminal	56%	55%	61%	54%	61%	57%	58%	66%	58%	64%	63%	59%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

<sup>\*\*</sup> This column based on workload for 11 Judges

# Exhibit 5

**Filings** 

# **Filings**



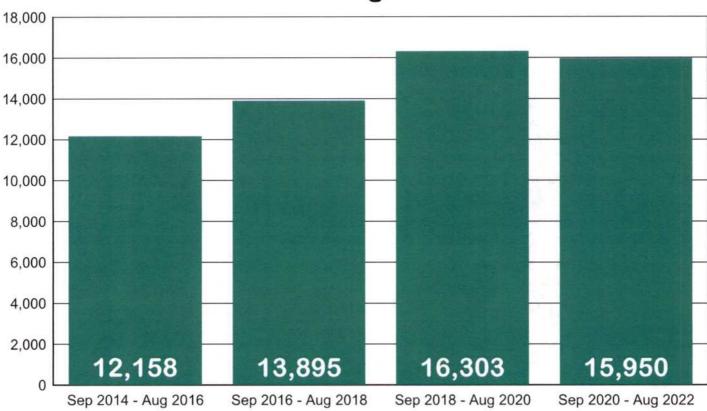
		Sep 2014 - Aug 2016	Sep 2016 - Aug 2018	Sep 2018 - Aug 2020	Sep 2020 - Aug 2022	2 Year Average
Adoption	ADOP	35	51	59	48	48
Adoption	FORA	1	5	6	0	3
	Total	36	56	65	48	51
Civil	ABC	0	1	0	0	0
CIVII	ACCT	0	0	0	1	0
	ADC	0	5	3	4	3
	AID	5	4	6	7	6
	ANUL	3	0	3	1	2
	AOCT	39	33	34	31	34
	APPT	52	60	46	60	55
	AVOT	2	4	0	2	2
	BF	26	17	6	75	31
	CC	87	107	59	65	80
	CCON	18	37	34	9	25
	CHP	3,738	4,109	5,148	5,299	4,574
	CHPL	75	77	94	105	88
	CHPN	1	9	7	12	7
	CHPR	144	184	240	247	204
	CJ	24	23	29	19	24
	CNST	0	0	0	6	2
	CNTR	80	299	481	360	305
	COM	80	72	56	43	63
	COND	11	23	9	5	12
	COP	6	13	4	7	8
	cos	0	0	2	0	1
	CROS	0	0	0	1	0
	CSVP	2	0	0	0	1
	CTAX	2	3	0	0	1

		Sep 2014 - Aug 2016	Sep 2016 - Aug 2018	Sep 2018 - Aug 2020	Sep 2020 - Aug 2022	2 Year Average
Civil	CTP	7	5	5	9	7
CIVII	DCRP	0	0	19	29	12
	DECL	13	16	16	13	15
	DET	3	0	2	1	2
	DIV	1,472	1,483	1,549	1,535	1,510
	DRIV	0	3	0	0	1
	DTAX	32	17	12	22	21
	ELEC	0	1	1	2	1
	EMP	1	0	1	ō	1
	ESTB	2	4	4	0	3
	FORF	10	30	42	15	24
	GACC	3	0	0	0	1
	GADT	4	3	2	1	3
	GAMJ	1	o o	3	1	1
	GAOC	Ò	1	o o	Ó	0
	GAOT	2	Ó	1	1	1
	GAPE	0	1	'n	Ó	Ó
	GAPO	4	10	0	11	9
	GAPP	1	0	0	5	2
	GAPT	'n	2	0	0	1
	GARN	128	210	480	494	328
	GATA	0	1	0	1	1
	GAUD	6	5	3	8	6
	GAWD	36	34	16	38	31
	GAZO	0	1	0	0	0
	GOVT	0	Ö	1	0	0
	GTOR	14	18	16	23	18
	INJ	7	5	8	8	7
	INTP	1	1	7	5	5
	INTR	0	5	12	19	9
	ITOR	6	18	12		11
	JAAP	6 2	2	2	6 2	2
	JAFP	28	36	43	46	38
	JAMP	0	30	0	40	1
	JAOT	0	3	1	0	1
	JAPE	Ò	0		0	0
	JARS	0	1	0	0	0
	JASC	8	0	1	0	4
	JAVS	68	43	0	0	28
	LIEN	0	43	0	0	0
	LT	0	1	0	0	0
	MECH	4	2	2	4	
	MED	1	1	1	1	3 3 0
	MIN	Ó	0	7	Ó	0
	MV	126	123	135	118	126
	NC	216	229	281	268	249
	PART	13	10	10	8	10
	PERF	13 2	2	0	6	3
	PET	118	137	93	114	116
	PROD	0	2	3	114	2
	PROT	0	2 0	0		0
	QT	9	7	6	12	9
	RE	13	21	16	16	17
	REFT	0	1	16 0	16 0	0
	REIM	82	129	118	103	108
	REIU	78	115	82	103	96
	REM	1	0	0	0	0
	REST	24	24	34	33	29
	RFRF	24	35	38	60	29
	RFRR	21 0	0	1	1	39 1
	ROMC	74	89	97	137	97
	SEP	4	4	87 3	0	3
	11 - CAMPANIA		-	9	0	-

September 2014 - August 2022 Filings

Civil         SRO SS         0         0         0         17 3         17 4			Sep 2014 - Aug 2016	Sep 2016 - Aug 2018	Sep 2018 - Aug 2020	Sep 2020 - Aug 2022	2 Year Average
SS	Civil	SRO	0	0			4
TRAN	Civil	SS	0	3	3		2
TRST 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		TRAN	12	8			12
WC		TRST		1		0	0
WD   5			0	0	1	1	1
WHC			1	0	0	0	0
WILL   0			5	4	7	5	5
WM   15   5   1   0			7	6	10	3	7
WQW			•	2	0	0	1
XPUN   24   37   36   54   37   36   54   37   36   54   37   36   54   37   36   37   36   37   36   37   36   37   37			15	5	1	0	5
Total   Tota						1	0
Total         7,108         8,053         9,521         9,740         8,600           Criminal         C         5         6         17         13         1           FC         2,813         3,106         3,822         3,335         3,26           FC         2         0         0         0         0           I         192         147         153         77         14           M         1,775         2,258         2,445         2,419         2,22           O         96         140         138         128         12           Total         4,883         5,657         6,575         5,972         5,777           Juvenile         AN         0         0         1         0         0           CR         0         1         0         0         0         0         0           CR         0         1         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         1         1         0         0         0         1         1         1         1         1         1 <td< th=""><th></th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th>54</th><th>38</th></td<>						54	38
Criminal         C         5         6         17         13         1           FC         2,813         3,106         3,822         3,335         3,26           FC         2         0         0         0         0           I         192         147         153         77         14           M         1,775         2,258         2,445         2,419         2,22           O         96         140         138         128         12           Total         4,883         5,657         6,575         5,972         5,77           Juvenile         AN         0         0         1         0         0           CR         0         1         0         0         0         0         0           CR         0         1         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         0         1         1         0         0         0         1         1         1         0         0         1         1         1         1         1         1         1		ZONE		0	0	1	0
FC 2,813 3,106 3,822 3,335 3,26 FC 2 0 0 0 0 0 1 192 147 153 77 14 M 1,775 2,258 2,445 2,419 2,22 O 96 140 138 128 12  Total 4,883 5,657 6,575 5,972 5,77   Juvenile C 0 0 2 0 0 CR 0 1 0 0 CV 83 71 76 88 8 F 14 15 5 7 1 CV 83 71 76 88 8 F 14 15 5 7 1 JS 0 0 0 1 76 88 8 F 14 15 5 7 1 JS 0 0 0 1 1 M 17 25 3 1 17 1 O 1 1 1 2 2 2 OT 1 1 2 2 6 PH 1 1 1 0 2 2 SC 4 5 12 12 TP 0 0 0 1 1 1 VS 0 4 38 47 22 Total 131 129 142 190 144				8,053			8,606
FC 2,813 3,106 3,822 3,335 3,26   FC 2 0 0 0 0 1   I 192 147 153 77 14   M 1,775 2,258 2,445 2,419 2,22   O 96 140 138 128 12   Total 4,883 5,657 6,575 5,972 5,77    Juvenile C 0 0 0 1 0 0   CR 0 1 0 0 0   CR 0 1 0 0 0   CV 83 71 76 88 8 8   F 14 15 5 7 7 1   I 10 2 2 7 7   JS 0 0 0 0 1 0 1   M 17 25 3 17 1 1   O 1 1 2 2 2   OT 1 1 1 0 2 2   SC 4 5 12 12   TP 0 0 0 1 1 0 2   SC 4 5 12 12   TP 0 0 0 4 38 47 2   Total 131 129 142 190 144	Criminal			_			10
1	011111111			3,106	3,822	3,335	3,269
M         1,775         2,258         2,445         2,419         2,22           O         96         140         138         128         12           Total         4,883         5,657         6,575         5,972         5,77           Juvenile         AN         0         0         1         0           C         0         2         0         0         0           CR         0         1         0         0         0           CV         83         71         76         88         8           F         14         15         5         7         1           JS         0         0         0         1         1           M         17         25         3         17         1           O         1         1         2         2         2           OT         1         1         2         2         6           PH         1         1         1         0         2         2           SC         4         5         12         12         12         1           TP         0         0		FC					1
O         96         140         138         128         12           Total         4,883         5,657         6,575         5,972         5,77           Juvenile         AN         0         0         1         0           C         0         2         0         0         0           CR         0         1         0         0         0           CV         83         71         76         88         8           F         14         15         5         7         1           JS         0         0         0         1         1           M         17         25         3         17         1           Q         1         1         2         2         2           OT         1         1         2         2         6           PH         1         1         1         0         2         2           SC         4         5         12         12         12           TP         0         0         1         1         1           VS         0         4         38         47 <td></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>142</td>		1					142
Total         4,883         5,657         6,575         5,972         5,77           Juvenile         AN							2,224
Juvenile         AN C O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O				140	138	128	126
C 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0			4,883	5,657	6,575	5,972	5,772
CR 0 1 0 0 0 CV 83 71 76 88 88 8 F 14 15 5 7 1 1 1 10 2 2 7 7 1 1 1 10 2 2 7 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Juvenile		0	0	1	0	0
CV     83     71     76     88     8       F     14     15     5     7     1       I     10     2     2     7       JS     0     0     0     1       M     17     25     3     17     1       O     1     1     2     2       OT     1     2     2     6       PH     1     1     0     2       SC     4     5     12     12       TP     0     0     1     1       VS     0     4     38     47     2       Total     131     129     142     190     14	ou voimo		0	2	0	0	1
F 14 15 5 7 1 I 10 2 2 7 JS 0 0 0 0 1 M 17 25 3 17 1 O 1 1 2 2 OT 1 2 2 6 PH 1 1 1 0 2 SC 4 5 12 12 TP 0 0 0 1 1 1 VS 0 4 38 47 2 Total 131 129 142 190 14				1		0	0
I     10     2     2     7       JS     0     0     0     1       M     17     25     3     17     1       O     1     1     2     2       OT     1     2     2     6       PH     1     1     0     2       SC     4     5     12     12       TP     0     0     1     1       VS     0     4     38     47     2       Total     131     129     142     190     14		CV				88	80
JS     0     0     0     1       M     17     25     3     17     1       O     1     1     2     2       OT     1     2     2     6       PH     1     1     0     2       SC     4     5     12     12       TP     0     0     1     1       VS     0     4     38     47     2       Total     131     129     142     190     14		F			5	7	10
M 17 25 3 17 1 O 1 1 1 2 2 OT 1 2 2 6 PH 1 1 1 0 2 SC 4 5 12 12 TP 0 0 0 1 1 1 VS 0 4 38 47 2 Total 131 129 142 190 14		1	10		2	7	5
O     1     1     2     2       OT     1     2     2     6       PH     1     1     0     2       SC     4     5     12     12       TP     0     0     1     1       VS     0     4     38     47     2       Total     131     129     142     190     14			0			1	0
OT     1     2     2     6       PH     1     1     0     2       SC     4     5     12     12       TP     0     0     1     1       VS     0     4     38     47     2       Total     131     129     142     190     14			17	25	3		16
PH 1 1 1 0 2 SC 4 5 12 12 TP 0 0 0 1 1 1 VS 0 4 38 47 2 Total 131 129 142 190 14			1	1		2	2
SC     4     5     12     12       TP     0     0     1     1       VS     0     4     38     47     2       Total     131     129     142     190     14			1	2			3
TP         0         0         1         1           VS         0         4         38         47         2           Total         131         129         142         190         14			1	1		2	1
VS         0         4         38         47         2           Total         131         129         142         190         14			4			12	8
<b>Total</b> 131 129 142 190 14						- All the state of	1
							22
<b>Total</b> 12,158 13,895 16,303 15,950 14,57		Total				190	148
	Total		12,158	13,895	16,303	15,950	14,577

# **Filings**



		Sep 2014 - Aug 2016	Sep 2016 - Aug 2018	Sep 2018 - Aug 2020	Sep 2020 - Aug 2022	2 Year Average
Adoption	ADOP	35	51	59	48	48
Adoption	FORA	1	5	6	0	3
	Total	36	56	65	48	51
Civil	ABC	0	1	0	0	0
CIVII	ACCT	0	0	0	1	0
	ADC	0	5	3	4	3
	AID	5	4	6	7	6
	ANUL	3	0	3	1	2
	AOCT	39	33	34	31	34
	APPT	52	33 60	46	60	55
	AVOT	2	4	0	2	2
	BF	26	17	6	75	31
	CC	87	107	59	65	80
	CCON	18	37	34	9	25
	CHP	3,738	4,109	5,148	5,299	4,574
	CHPL	75	77	94	105	88
	CHPN	1	9	7	12	7
	CHPR	144	184	240	247	204
	CJ	24	23	29	19	24
	CNST	0	0	0	6	2
	CNTR	80	299	481	360	305
	COM	80	72	56	43	63
	COND	11	23	9	5	12
	COP	6	13	4	7	8
	cos	0	0	2	0	1
	CROS	0	0	0	1	0
	CSVP	2	0	0	0	1
	CTAX	2	3	0	0	1

10/6/22 Source: CCMS/CBRDB/WADE

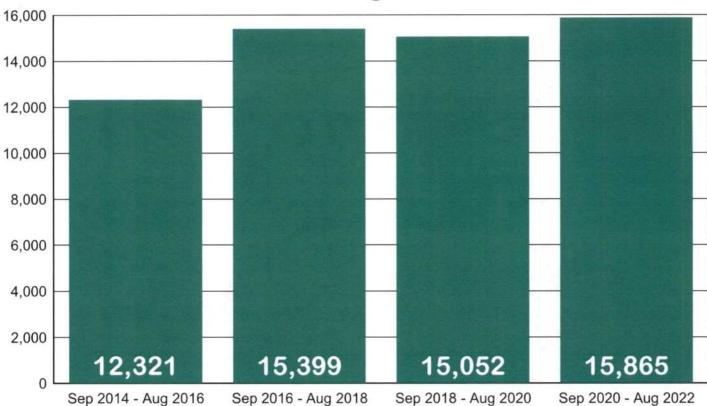
		Sep 2014 - Aug 2016	Sep 2016 - Aug 2018	Sep 2018 - Aug 2020	Sep 2020 - Aug 2022	2 Year Average
Civil	CTP	7	5	5	9	7
Olvii	DCRP	0	0	19	29	12
	DECL	13	16	16	13	15
	DET	3	0	2	1	2
	DIV	1,472	1,483	1,549	1,535	1,510
	DRIV	0	3	0	0	1
	DTAX	32	17	12	22	21
	ELEC	0	1	1	2	1
	EMP	1	0	1	0	1
	ESTB	2	4	4	0	3
	FORF	10	30	42	15	24
	GACC	3	0	0	0	1
	GADT	4	3	2	1	3
	GAMJ	1	0	2 3	1	1
	GAOC	0	1	0	0	0
	GAOT	2	0	1	1	1
	GAPE	0	1	0	0	0
	GAPO	4	10	9	11	9
	GAPP	1	0	0	5	2
	GAPT	0	2	0	0	1
	GARN	128	210	480	494	328
	GATA	0	1	0	1	1
	GAUD	6	5	3	8	6
	GAWD	36	34	16	38	31
	GAZO	0	1	0	0	0
	GOVT	0	0	1	0	0
	GTOR	14	18	16	23	18
	INJ	7	5	8	8	7
	INTP	4	4	7	5	5
	INTR	0	5	12	19	9
	ITOR	6	18	12	6	11
	JAAP	2	2	2	2	2
	JAFP	28	36	43	46	38
	JAMP	0	1	0	1	1
	JAOT	1	3	1	0	1
	JAPE	0	0	1	0	0
	JARS	0	1	0	0	0
	JASC	8	8	1	0	4
	JAVS	68	43	0	0	28
	LIEN	0	1	0	0	0
	LT	0	1	0	0	0
	MECH	4	2	2	4	3
	MED	1	4	4	1	3
	MIN	0	0	1	0	0
	MV	126	123	135	118	126
	NC	216	229	281	268	249
	PART	13 2	10	10	8	10
	PERF	2	2	0	6	3
	PET	118	137 2 0	93	114	116
	PROD	0	2	3	1	2
	PROT	0	0	3 0 6	1	0
	QT	9	7	6	12	9
	RE	13 0	21	16 0	16	17
	REFT	0	1	0	0	0
	REIM	82	129 115	118	103	108
	REIU	78	115	82	109	96
	REM	1	0	0	0	0
	REST	24	24	34	33	29
	RFRF	21	35	38	60	39
	RFRR	0	0	1	1	1
	ROMC	74	89	87 3	137	97
	_SEP	4	4	3	0	3

September 2014 - August 2022 Filings

		Sep 2014 - Aug 2016	Sep 2016 - Aug 2018	Sep 2018 - Aug 2020	Sep 2020 - Aug 2022	2 Year Average
Civil	SRO	0	0	0	17	4
Civil	SS	0	3	3	3	2
	TRAN	12	8	19	8	12
	TRST	0	1	0	0	0
	UD	0	0	1	1	1
	WC	1	0	0	0	0
	WD	5	4	7	5	5
	WHC	7	6	10	3	7
	WILL	0	2	0	0	_ 1
	WM	15	5	1	0	5
	WQW	0	0	0	1	0
	XPUN	24	37	36	54	38
	ZONE	0	0	0	1	0
	Total	7,108	8,053	9,521	9,740	8,606
Criminal	С	5	6	17	13	10
Ormina	F	2,813	3,106	3,822	3,335	3,269
	FC	2	0	0	0	1
	1	192	147	153	77	142
	M	1,775	2,258	2,445	2,419	2,224
	0	96	140	138	128	126
	Total	4,883	5,657	6,575	5,972	5,772
Juvenile	AN	0	0	1	0	0
ouverme	С	0	2	0	0	1
	CR	0	1	0	0	0
	CV	83	71	76	88	80
	F	14	15	5	7	10
	1	10	2	2	7	5
	JS	0	0	0	1	0
	M	17	25	3	17	16
	0	1	1	2	2	2
	OT	1	2	2	6	3
	PH	1	1	0	2	1
	SC	4	5	12	12	8
	TP	0	0	1	1	1
	VS	0	4	38	47	22
	Total	131	129	142	190	148
Total		12,158	13,895	16,303	15,950	14,577

10/6/22 Source: CCMS/CBRDB/WADE





		Sep 2014 - Aug 2016	Sep 2016 - Aug 2018	Sep 2018 - Aug 2020	Sep 2020 - Aug 2022	2 Year Average
Adoption	ADOP	69	79	96	86	83
Adopuon	FORA	1	7	2	3	3
	PETA	0	1	0	0	0
	Total	70	87	98	89	86
Civil	AAPL	1	0	0	1	1
0.4	ABC	2	1	2	2	2
	ACCT	0	0	0	2	1
	ADC	0	3	6	2	3
	AID	6	3	0	1	3
	ANUL	0	5	2	4	3
	AOCT	18	17	14	22	18
	APPT	74	89	64	88	79
	AVOT	3	5	3	1	3
	BF	23	1	0	0	6
	CAN	1	10	1	1	3
	CC	16	15	18	17	17
	CCON	43	167	55	153	105
	CHP	4,563	5,233	6,095	6,533	5,606
	CHPL	144	149	135	158	147
	CHPN	18	14	15	20	17
	CHPR	143	195	184	187	177
	CJ	5	4	8	5	6
	CNST	0	0	0	1	0
	CNTR	99	93	81	65	85
	COM	86	102	71	48	77
	COND	10	5	22	13	13
	COP	7	3	2	2	4
	cos	0	1	8	1	3

10/19/22 Source: CCMS/CBRDB/WADE

Civil CROS 1 9 5		
	2	4
CSVP 1 1 0	0	1
CTAX 2 1 0	0	1
CTP 2 2 0	2	2
cvs 0 0 0	2	1
DECL 22 14 12	15	16
DET 4 3 5	4	4
DIV 624 733 726	765	712
DRIV 44 11 5	14	19
	15	23
EJCT 1 0 0	0	0
EMP 2 0 0	0	
ESTB 0 0 2	1	1
FORF 104 70 53	40	67
GAAL 1 0 0	0	0
GABC 2 0 0	0	1
GACC 1 1 1 1	0	1
GADT 1 2 2	1	2
GAIM 0 0 1	0	0
GAMC 9 6 1	2	5
GAMJ 0 1 1	2	1
GAMT 0 1 0	0	0
GAOC 0 0 1	0	0
GAOT 0 1 0	2	1
GAPE 1 2 0	0	1
GAPO 5 4 9	9	7
GAPP 2 2 0	2	2
GAPT 0 0 1	0	0
	96	112
	0	0
GATD 7 12 0	1	5
GAUD 10 15 6	15	12
GAWD 30 29 34	31	31
GMCT 2 0 10	5	4
GRV 0 0 0	1	0
GTOR 26 23 27	33	27
INJ 3 6 9	4	6
INTP 2 4 8	11	6
INTR 0 3 10	16	7
ITOR 5 5 6	9	6
JAAP 0 0 2	1	1
JAFP 27 34 41	43	36
JAMP 1 3 4	2	3
JAOT 2 5 0	0	2
JAPE 0 0 0	2	1
JASC 27 17 17	21	21
JAVS 74 78 53	61	67
JR 0 0 0	1	0
LEP 0 0 1	0	0
LIEN 1 1 6	1	3
LT 0 0 1	0	0
MECH 4 4 4	4	4
	6	7
	6	
MV 164 189 179	161	173
NC 376 370 369	453	392
PART 5 9 12 PERF 2 3 1	16	11
PERF 2 3 1	0	2
PET 73 150 58	55	84
PROD 1 1 0	0	1
PROT 3 0 1	0	1
QT 11 14 8 RE 9 10 2	9 5	11
RE 9 10 2	5	7

September 2014 - August 2022 Filings

		Sep 2014 - Aug 2016	Sep 2016 - Aug 2018	Sep 2018 - Aug 2020	Sep 2020 - Aug 2022	2 Year Average
Civil	REFT	3	3	0	0	2
Civii	REIM	59	47	54	58	55
	REIU	59	53	62	54	57
	REM	0	0	0	12	0
	REST	17	39	47	27	33
	RFRF	51	88	65	118	81
	RFRR	1	0	1	0	1
	ROMC	0	92	102	119	78
	SEP	Ô	1	0	0	0
	SEVR	1	ò	Ö	o o	0
	SS	Ô	7	18	10	9
	STND	0	2	0	0	1
	TRAN	0	2	7	1	3
	UD	0	2	2	6	3
	WC	0	3	3	0	1
		1		1	3	A STATE OF THE STA
	WD	2	2	8	2	4
	WHC	9	5	14	8	9
	WILL	1	0	0	2	1
	WM	6	19	4	0	/
	WQW	0	0	1	0	0
	XPUN	40	58	36	66	50
	ZONE	2	0	0	0	1
	Total	7,380	8,541	9,027	9,747	8,674
Criminal	С	5	7	7	12	8
	F	3,279	4,653	3,975	4,163	4,018
	FC	0	_4	0	0	1
	1	105	70	94	47	79
	M	896	1,345	1,242	1,221	1,176
	0	105	185	163	205	165
	Total	4,390	6,264	5,481	5,648	5,446
Juvenile	AN	16	17	2	10	11
ouverme	С	0	1	0	0	0
	CS	0	0	2	0	1
	CV	298	368	316	346	332
	F	10	5	6	3	6
	1	9	5	10	1	6
	M	59	49	31	11	38
	0	5	1	2	0	2
	OT	6	15	6	3	8
	PC	8	1	0	1	3
	PH	15	31	20	2	17
	PT	15 0	31 3	0	Ō	1
	SC	14	ő	n	0	4
	ST	0	0	1	0	0
	TP	40	11	50	1	26
		40	0	50 0	3	20
	VS		507	446	381	454
	Total	481				
Total		12,321	15,399	15,052	15,865	14,659

# Exhibit 6

Guidelines for caseload completion

#### Circuit Courts of Virginia Voluntary Case Processing Time Guidelines



Statement of the Judicial Council of Virginia on the Adoption and Implementation of Case Processing Time Guidelines

#### (Implemented July 1, 1991)

Excellence in the administration of justice is a longstanding commitment made by the judiciary to the people of Virginia. In the eyes of the public, "excellence" increasingly is being measured by the ease and quality of the litigation process as well as the case outcome. Thus, a continuing obligation of the judiciary is to ensure effective access to justice, including the opportunity to resolve disputes without undue hardship, cost, inconvenience, or delay.

Determining methods to improve efficiency in case processing as well as increasing the convenience of courts to litigants also has been an important objective set forth by the Judicial Council within its Comprehensive Judicial Plan. Pilot projects on delay reduction have been initiated in several courts and training seminars on the topic have been provided. Reports on court delay have been issued both by the Virginia Bar Association and committees of the Virginia State Bar.

The Judicial Council believes that in order for the courts to continue to dispense justice in a timely and efficient manner, there is need for a more comprehensive approach to reducing and preventing delay. Thus, the following case processing time guidelines for the trial courts have been adopted by the Council:

A. General Civil - (Circuit Court) 90% of all civil cases should be settled, tried, or otherwise concluded within 12 months of the date of case filing; 98% within 18 months of such filing; and the remainder within 24 months of such filing except for individual cases in which the Court determines exceptional circumstances exist and for which a continuing review should occur.

#### B. · Criminal -

FELONY - (Circuit Court) 90% of all felony cases should be adjudicated or otherwise concluded within 120 days from the date of arrest; 98% within 180 days; and 100% within one year. Preliminary hearings for felony cases in district courts should be concluded within 45 days from the date of arrest.

MISDEMEANOR - (General District Court and adult misdemeanors in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court) 90% of all misdemeanors and infractions should be adjudicated or otherwise concluded within 60 days from the date of arrest or citation and 100% within 90 days.

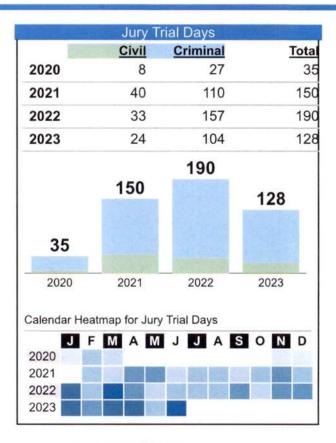
PERSONS IN PRETRIAL CUSTODY - Persons incarcerated before trial should be afforded priority for trial,

The guideline for criminal cases covers the time from arrest to adjudication not sentencing.

# Exhibit 7a

Overall Juries Impaneled and Trial Dates

	Juries	Impaneled	
188	Civil	Criminal	Total
2020	6	17	23
2021	27	75	102
2022	22	117	139
2023	11	85	96
		139	
	102		96
23			
2020	2021	2022	2023
		2022 ries Impaneled	2023
J F	MAM	JJA	OND
2020			
2022			
and the first	Col. Service	THE RESERVE AND PERSONS NAMED IN	THE PARTY NAMED IN



			2020	)		2021			2022	2	2023		
		Civ	Cri	Total	Civ	Cri	Total	Civ	Cri	Total	Civ	Cri	Total
Caroline	Impaneled	-	2	2	3	3	6	2	13	15	-	7	7
Caroline	Trial Days	-	2	2	3	4	7	2	21	23	-	8	8
Eccoy	Impaneled	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	2
Essex	Trial Days	-	-	0	-	2	2	-	2	2	3	1	4
Evadariakahura	Impaneled	-	3	3	5	9	14	2	20	22	2	11	13
Fredericksburg	Trial Days	-	6	6	14	14	28	4	23	27	6	12	18
Hanavaa	Impaneled	1	1	2	6	14	20	5	16	21	3	11	14
Hanover	Trial Days	1	1	2	8	26	34	8	17	25	6	11	17
King George	Impaneled	-	2	2	-	3	3	1	2	3		2	2
	Trial Days	-	6	6	-	6	6	2	2	5	_	2	2
Lancaster	Impaneled	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	4	4	1	1	2
Lancaster	Trial Days	_	-	0	-	6	6	-	9	9	1	4	5
Monthumbonland	Impaneled	-	-	-	-	1	1		3	3	-	-	-
Northumberland	Trial Days	_	_	0	_	1	1	-	5	5	_	-	0
Dishmand County	Impaneled	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Richmond County	Trial Days	_	2	2	-	4	4	-	124	0	_	1	1
Cnotoulyania	Impaneled	2	-	2	8	17	25	8	31	39	1	22	23
Spotsylvania	Trial Days	2	-	2	10	19	29	11	48	59	2	27	29
Otofford	Impaneled	2	8	10	5	24	29	4	27	31	3	29	32
Stafford	Trial Days	3	10	13	5	28	33	6	29	35	6	38	44
Westmoreland	Impaneled	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-1	-	-
vvesunoreiand	Trial Days	2	-	2	-	-	0	-	_	0	-	_	0

# CASELOAD STATISTICS OF THE CIRCUIT COURTS January 2020 - June 2023 Juries Impaneled and Trial Days

Circuit 15

			2020	)		202	1		2022	2		2023	3
		Civ	Cri	Total	Civ	Cri	Total	Civ	Cri	Total	Civ	Cri	Tota
Caroline	Impaneled	-	2	2	3	3	6	2	13	15	-	7	7
Caroline	Trial Days	_	2	2	3	4	7	2	21	23	_	8	8
Facey	Impaneled	-		-	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	2
Essex	Trial Days	-	_	0	-	2	2	-	2	2	3	1	4
Cradorialsabura	Impaneled	-	3	3	5	9	14	2	20	22	2	11	13
Fredericksburg	Trial Days	-	6	6	14	14	28	4	23	27	6	12	18
Hanover	Impaneled	1	1	2	6	14	20	5	16	21	3	11	14
папочег	Trial Days	1	1	2	8	26	34	8	17	25	6	11	17
Vina Cooras	Impaneled	-	2	2	-	3	3	1	2	3	-	2	2
King George	Trial Days	-	6	6	-	6	6	2	3	5	-	2	2
Lancaster	Impaneled	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	4	4	1	1	2
	Trial Days	-	_	0	-	6	6	-	9	9	1	4	5
Monthumborland	Impaneled	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	3	3	-	-	-
Northumberland	Trial Days	-	_	0	_	1	1	-	5	5	-	-	0
Disharand Carrets	Impaneled	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Richmond County	Trial Days	-	2	2	_	4	4	_	-	0	-	1	1
Cantaulyania	Impaneled	2	-	2	8	17	25	8	31	39	1	22	23
Spotsylvania	Trial Days	2	-	2	10	19	29	11	48	59	2	27	29
Stafford	Impaneled	2	8	10	5	24	29	4	27	31	3	29	32
Stallord	Trial Days	3	10	13	5	28	33	6	29	35	6	38	44
Westmoreland	Impaneled	1	-	1	100	-	-	-	-		-	-	-
vvesunoreiand	Trial Days	2	-	2		-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0
Total	Impaneled	6	17	23	27	75	102	22	117	139	11	85	96
Total	Trial Days	8	27	35	40	110	150	33	157	190	24	104	128

# Exhibit 7b

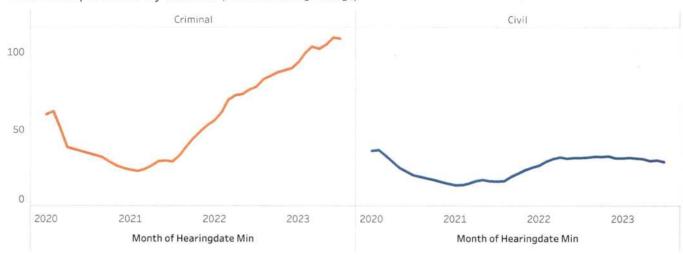
Rankings of Juries Impaneled and Trial Dates

# Circuit Courts of Virginia

January 2022 - July 2023 Juries Impaneled and Trial Days

			2022					2023		
	Juries Per	Average				Juries Per	Average			
	Judge	Juries Per	Juries	Judges	Jury Trial	Judge	Juries Per	Juries	Judges	Jury Trial
	Ranking	Judge	Impaneled	Serving	Days	Ranking	Judge	Impaneled	Serving	Days
11	1	18.3	55	3	62	1	14.3	43	3	50
7	2	14.2	71	5	146	3	9.6	48	5	73
13	3	13.6	95	7	115	9	7.6	53	7	73
20	4	12.8	64	5	144	11	7.0	35	5	85
15	5	12.4	136	11	186	2	9.7	107	11	146
12	6	12.0	72	6	98	4	9.0	54	6	84
16	6	12.0	72	6	112	25	4.3	26	6	30
14	8	11.8	59	5	77	4	9.0	45	5	68
6	9	11.3	34	3	47	8	8.3	25	3	31
1	10	11.2	56	5	99	6	8.8	44	5	66
17	11	11.0	44	4	106	23	4.5	18	4	31
9	12	10.8	43	4	55	14	6.5	26	4	47
3	13	10.5	42	4	70	22	5.3	21	4	37
4	14	10.1	81	8	190	12	6.9	55	8	107
8	15	10.0	30	3	56	7	8.7	26	3	51
24	15	10.0	60	6	78	10	7.2	43	6	53
31	15	10.0	70	7	177	19	5.6	39	7	102
22	18	9.8	39	4	46	16	6.0	24	4	30
26	19	8.5	68	8	112	13	6.8	54	8	75
2	20	8.0	64	8	130	16	6.0	48	8	77
10	21	7.5	30	4	44	15	6.3	25	4	32
25	22	7.3	44	6	68	18	5.8	35	6	41
21	22	7.3	22	3	22	21	5.3	16	3	17
28	24	6.8	27	4	34	28	1.3	5	4	6
23	25	6.6	33	5	50	26	4.0	20	5	27
5	26	5.8	23	4	54	20	5.5	22	4	35
27	27	5.7	34	6	45	23	4.5	27	6	37
30	28	2.5	10	4	20	27	2.3	9	4	12
29	29	1.2	6	5	9	29	1.0	5	5	13

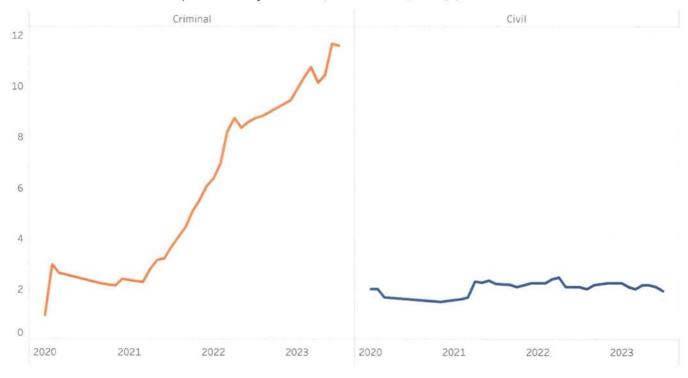
## Juries Impaneled by Month (12 Month Rolling Average)



# Circuit Courts of Virginia

January 2022 - July 2023 Juries Impaneled

#### 15th Circuit - Juries Impaneled by Month (12 Month Rolling Average)



### 15th Circuit - Juries Impaneled by Court and Year

		2020			2021			2022			2023	
Locale	Criminal	Civil	Total									
Caroline	2		2	3	3	6	11	2	13	8		8
Essex				1		1	1		1	1	1	2
Fredericksburg	3		3	9	5	14	20	2	22	13	2	15
Hanover	1	1	2	14	6	20	16	5	21	12	3	15
King George	2		2	3		3	2	1	3	2		2
Lancaster				2		2	4		4	1	1	2
Northumberland				1		1	3		3			
Richmond Coun	1		1	1		1				1		1
Spotsylvania		2	2	18	8	26	31	8	39	25	1	26
Stafford	8	2	10	23	5	28	26	4	30	31	4	35
Westmoreland		1	1							1		1
Grand Total	17	6	23	75	27	102	114	22	136	95	12	107

# Exhibit 8

Judicial Workload Assessment

# Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment

Final Report
November 2017

Brian J. Ostrom, Ph.D. Matthew Kleiman, Ph.D. Cynthia G. Lee, J.D. Shannon Roth

Research Division
National Center for State Courts



#### Acknowledgments

The authors wish to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of the judges of Virginia to this workload assessment. An undertaking of this nature would not have been possible without the assistance of the dedicated members of the Virginia circuit, general district, and juvenile and domestic relations district courts who gave their valuable time to this project.

Over the course of this study we were fortunate to meet regularly with a distinguished advisory committee. The Judicial Needs Assessment Committee, comprised of both judges and clerks from across the state, provided input and perspective in all phases of the project.

We extend a special note of thanks to staff members of the Office of the Executive Secretary. In particular, we thank Kristi Wright, Edward Macon, and Chris Wade for their support during the National Center for State Courts' study of judicial workload in the Commonwealth of Virginia. We very much appreciate their knowledge of the Virginia court system and their unfailing good spirits throughout the life of this project.

We are also extremely grateful to our NCSC colleagues Neil LaFountain, Kathryn Holt and Lydia Hamblin for their assistance and thoughtful insights. Finally, we thank Diana McSpadden for developing the Web-based tools used in this study.

#### Judicial Needs Assessment Committee

#### Circuit Court

The Honorable R. Edwin Burnette, Jr. Twenty-fourth Judicial Circuit Lynchburg Circuit Court

The Honorable Michele J. Atkins Fourth Judicial Circuit Norfolk Circuit Court

The Honorable Daniel S. Fiore, II
Seventeenth Judicial Circuit
Arlington Circuit Court

The Honorable Sage B. Johnson Twenty-eighth Judicial Circuit Bristol Circuit Court

The Honorable Wilford Taylor, Jr. (Chair)

Bighth Judicial Circuit

Hampton Circuit Court

The Honorable Heidi Barshinger, Clerk Fourteenth Judicial Circuit Henrico County

#### General District Court

The Honorable Randal J. Duncan Twenty-seventh Judicial District Montgomery General District Court

The Honorable Tonya Henderson-Stith Eighth Judicial District Hampton General District Court

The Honorable Becky J. Moore
Eighteenth Judicial District
Alexandria General District Court

The Honorable James J. O'Connell, III
Twelfth Judicial District
Chesterfield General District Court

The Honorable J. William Watson, Jr. Tenth Judicial District Halifax General District Court

Ms. Connie S. Comer, Clerk Twenty-ninth Judicial District Tazewell General District Court

# Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

The Honorable H. Lee Chitwood
Twenty-seventh Judicial District
Pulaski Juvenile and Domestic Relations District
Court

The Honorable Glenn L. Clayton, II
Nineteenth Judicial District
Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations
District Court

The Honorable Frank W. Somerville Sixteenth Judicial District Culpeper Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

The Honorable Leisa K. Ciaffone
Twenty-third Judicial District
Roanoke County Juvenile and Domestic
Relations District Court

The Honorable Deborah M. Paxson
Second Judicial District
Virginia Beach Juvenile and Domestic Relations
District Court

Ms. Ann B. Lloyd, Clerk
Twenty-sixth Judicial District
Frederick/Winchester Juvenile & Domestic
Relations District Court

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At the request of the Virginia General
Assembly, the Supreme Court of Virginia
contracted with the National Center for State
Courts (NCSC) to perform a comprehensive
update, extension, and improvement of the
existing Virginia judicial weighted caseload
system in line with state-of-the-art practices. A
clear and objective assessment of court
workload is essential to establish the number of
judges required to resolve in a timely manner all
cases coming before the court. The primary
goals of the study were to:

- Develop a valid measure of judicial workload in all circuit and district courts, accounting for variations in complexity among different case types, as well as differences in the non-case-related responsibilities of judges in singlejurisdiction and multi-jurisdiction circuits and districts;
- Evaluate the current allocation of judicial resources;
- Establish a transparent and empirically driven formula for the Supreme Court and the General Assembly to use in determining the appropriate level of judicial resources in each circuit and district.

#### Project Design

To provide oversight and guidance on matters of policy throughout the project, Chief Justice Donald W. Lemons appointed an 18-member Judicial Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC) consisting of 15 judges and three court clerks representing circuit, general district, and juvenile and domestic relations district courts across the Commonwealth. The workload assessment was conducted in two phases:

 A time study in which all judges and retired/substitute judges - who were being used to hear cases beyond the capacity of the

- court's regularly sitting judges recorded all case- related and non-case-related work over a six-week period. The time study also measured differences in the amount of judge time spent on cases with and without an interpreter as well as whether cases involved self-represented litigants. The purpose was to provide an empirical description of the amount of time currently devoted to processing each case type, as well as the division of the workday between case-related and non-case-related activities.
- 2. A quality adjustment process that ensured that the final weighted caseload models incorporated sufficient time for efficient and effective case processing. The quality adjustment process included a statewide sufficiency of time survey asking judges about the amount of time currently available to perform various case-related and non-case-related tasks; site visits with 27 circuit, general district and juvenile and domestic relations district courts; and a structured review of the case weights by panels of judges from across Virginia.

#### **Project Results**

Applying the final weighted caseload model to current case filings shows that the current judicial workload exceeds the capacity of the existing complement of judges. There is currently a need for a total of 170 circuit court judges, 130 general district court judges, and 135 juvenile and domestic relations district court judges in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Additional judges are needed to enable Virginia's trial court judiciary to manage and resolve court business effectively and without delay while also delivering quality service to the public.

#### Recommendations

The weighted caseload model adopted by the Judicial Needs Assessment Committee provides an empirically grounded basis for analyzing judicial workload in each of Virginia's trial courts. The following recommendations will help to ensure the integrity and utility of the judicial workload model over time.

#### Recommendation 1

The revised weighted caseload model clearly illustrates the changing character of judicial workload in Virginia. When applied, the new case weights adopted by the Judicial Needs Assessment Committee provide an accurate means to determine the number of judges needed in each circuit and district court. In some jurisdictions, the current number of judges is insufficient to effectively resolve the cases coming before the court. The Virginia General Assembly should consider authorizing new judgeships in the circuit courts, general district courts, and juvenile and domestic relations district courts where the weighted caseload model shows a need for additional judges.

#### Recommendation 2

The calculations of judge need in this report are based upon a three-year average of case filing data. NCSC recommends that circuit court. general district court, and juvenile and domestic relations district court judge need be recalculated on an annual basis using the same methodology set forth in this report and updated with year-end case filing data. The application of the workload formula to the most recent filings will reveal the impact of any changes in caseloads or caseload composition on judicial workload and judge need. OES should continue to make improvements in data quality and consistency in automated case management systems to better track and record use of interpreters and alternative attorney configurations in all cases.

#### Recommendation 3

The availability of support personnel, especially law clerks/staff attorneys and court clerks, has a profound impact on judges' ability to perform their work efficiently and effectively. Judges across the state stressed the importance of strong support staff and dedicated court clerks, and stated that if they had access to a law clerk or a judicial secretary to assist with tasks such as preparing case summaries, taking notes during hearings, and assisting with drafting opinions and orders that would enable judges to make more timely decisions, and therefore save judges time and increase the court's efficiency. NCSC recommends that workload assessments be conducted or updated for law clerks/staff attorneys, judicial assistants, circuit court deputy clerks, and district clerks of court and deputy clerks. The OES currently maintains and routinely updates a weighted caseload staffing model and workload assessment for district court clerks, while staffing and development of staffing models for law clerks/staff attorneys. judicial assistants and circuit court deputy clerks are the responsibility of localities and/or the Virginia Compensation Board. The development of or an update to existing staffing models for these groups would provide the information needed to evaluate the adequacy of staffing levels to ensure the quality processing of cases.

#### Recommendation 4

Over time, the integrity of a weighted caseload model may be affected by multiple influences, such as changes in legislation, case law, legal practice, and technology. Regular updates are necessary to ensure that a weighted caseload model remains an accurate representation of judicial workload. A systematic review of the model should be conducted every five years.

## I. Introduction

In 2016, the General Assembly requested the Supreme Court to update the 2013 weighted caseload study "that measured and compared judicial caseloads throughout the Commonwealth on the circuit court, general district court, and juvenile and domestic relations district court levels." The 2016 Appropriation Act language goes on to say: "In addition to the factors considered during the earlier study, the National Center shall also consider factors identified by the Supreme Court such as the use of interpreters, law clerks, retired or substitute judges, the effect of pro se litigants on judicial time, and the effect of population growth or decline, if any." In fulfillment of this mandate, the Supreme Court of Virginia contracted with the National Center for State Courts (hereafter NCSC) to update the weighted caseload system and to further consider factors identified by the Supreme Court that can be used to assess the need and manage the distribution of judicial resources.

This report describes the methodology and results of the Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment, conducted between July 2016 and October 2017. The project's primary goals were to:

- Develop a valid measure of judicial workload in all circuit and district courts in the Commonwealth of Virginia, considering variations in complexity among different case types, as well as differences in the noncase-related responsibilities of judges in single-jurisdiction and multi-jurisdiction circuits and districts;
- Evaluate the current allocation of judicial resources;

- Establish a transparent and empirically driven formula for the Supreme Court and the General Assembly to use in determining the appropriate level of judicial resources in each circuit and district; and
- Examine the differential impact of cases involving pro se litigants and interpreters on judicial workload, and document population growth or decline.

The need for financial and resource accountability in government is a strong stimulus to develop a systematic method to assess the need for judges. The state-of-the-art technique for assessing judicial need is a weighted caseload study because population or raw, unadjusted fillings offer only minimal guidance regarding the amount of judicial work generated by those case fillings. The weighted caseload method explicitly incorporates the differences in judicial workload associated with different types of cases, producing a more accurate and nuanced profile of the need for judges in each court.

The weighted caseload formula was developed using a highly participatory multi-method data collection strategy. Key features of this strategy include:

 A statewide time study providing a detailed empirical profile of the amount of time
 Virginia judges currently spend handling cases of various types—including both onbench and off-bench work—as well as other essential judicial functions such as travel and administrative work:

- Qualitative input gathered from judges through a statewide on-line survey and a series of site visits scheduled for 27 courts in 9 jurisdictions;
- A quality adjustment process designed to ensure that the weighted caseload formula allows sufficient time for efficient and effective case resolution; and
- An advisory committee of judges and court clerks to offer input and advice.

The final workload formula yields a clear and objective assessment of judicial workload and the number of judges required to handle that workload on a statewide basis and in each circuit and district, allowing policymakers to make informed decisions regarding matters such as the allocation of judicial resources.

NCSC Independence and Competence. The NCSC is particularly well suited to conduct the Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment because

of its experience, expertise and knowledge of the justice system. Founded in 1971, the NCSC is an independent, nonprofit court improvement organization. All of NCSC's services --research, information services, education, consulting - are designed to help courts plan, make decisions, and implement improvements that save time and money, while ensuring judicial administration that supports fair and impartial decision-making. For nearly three decades, a key focus of NCSC expertise has been on the development and use of systematic methods for assessing the need for judges. The NCSC is the leader in weighted caseload studies for courts and their justice system partners, with studies conducted at every level of government, for almost every type of justice system position. In all, the NCSC has conducted more than 50 workload and staffing assessments in the last 10 years. These studies have been performed in a variety of contexts-statewide and local efforts, general and limited jurisdiction courts-and have involved judges, quasi-judicial officers, probation officers, attorneys, and administrative and clerical staff.

## **II. PROJECT OVERVIEW**

## A. The Weighted Caseload Model

The weighted caseload model of workload analysis is grounded in the understanding that different types of court cases vary in complexity, and consequently in the amount of judicial work they generate. For example, a typical felony creates a greater need for judicial resources than the average misdemeanor case. The weighted caseload model calculates judicial need based on each court's total workload. The weighted caseload model consists of three critical elements:

- 1. Case filings, or the number of new cases of each type opened each year;
- Case weights, which represent the average amount of judge time required to handle cases of each type over the life of the case; and
- The year value, or the amount of time each judicial officer has available for case-related work in one year.

Total annual workload is calculated by multiplying the annual filings for each case type by the corresponding case weight, then summing the workload across all case types. Each court's workload is then divided by the year value to determine the total number of full-time equivalent judges needed to handle the workload.

### B. The Judicial Needs Assessment Committee

To provide input and guidance throughout the project, the NCSC requested that the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia form the Judicial Needs Assessment Committee (JNAC or Committee). The Committee consisted of 15 judges and three court clerks representing circuit, general district, and juvenile and domestic relations district courts across the Commonwealth. The full Committee met three times over the course of the project, in addition to multiple sub- committee conference calls held to identify case types and evaluate the data collection strategy. Committee responsibilities included:

- Advising the project team on the definitions of case types and case-related and non-caserelated events to be used during the time study;
- Reviewing and commenting on alternative strategies to measure and incorporate varying judicial workload due to the presence of interpreters and alternative selfrepresented litigant/attorney configurations<sup>1</sup>, as well the impact of changes in population and case filing trends; and
- Reviewing and endorsing the results of the time study and the quality adjustment process.

juvenile and domestic relations court cases there was one attorney and one self-represented party, while others involved five or more attorneys. Therefore, to case discussion, attorney configuration is the term used to encompass all the possible combinations of attorneys and self-represented litigants.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The term "attorney configuration" refers to the arrangement of attorneys and non-attorneys presenting a case before the court. In a typical case with two parties, one or both sides may be self-represented or represented by an attorney. For juvenile and domestic relations district court cases, the time study focused on the number of attorneys involved in the case as well as whether any parties were self-represented. For example, in some

#### C. Research Design

The workload assessment was conducted in two phases:

- 1. A time study in which all judges and retired/substitute judges—who were being used to hear cases beyond the capacity of the court's regularly sitting judges—recorded all case-related and non-case-related work over a six-week period. The time study also measured differences in the amount of judge time spent on cases with and without an interpreter as well as for different self-represented litigant/attorney configurations. The purpose was to provide an empirical description of the amount of time currently devoted to processing each case type, as well as the division of the workday between case-related and non-case- related activities.
- 2. A quality adjustment process that ensured that the final weighted caseload models incorporated sufficient time for efficient and effective case processing. The quality adjustment process included a statewide sufficiency of time survey asking judges about the amount of time currently available to perform various case-related and non-case-related tasks, site visits with 27 circuit, general district and juvenile and domestic relations district courts, and a structured review of the case weights by panels of judges from across Virginia.

## D. Case Type Categories

During its first meeting, the JNAC defined the case type categories to be used as the basis for the weighted caseload model. The goal was to identify a manageable number of case type categories that are recognized as legally and logically distinct, associated with different amounts of judicial work, and covering the full range of case types adjudicated in Virginia's trial courts. For purposes of this study, 16 case types were defined for circuit court, eight for general district court, and nine for juvenile and domestic relations district court. Exhibit 1 lists the case type categories; Appendix A provides a detailed definition for each category.

#### **Exhibit 1: Case Type Categories**

**Circuit Court** 

Capital Murder

Non-Capital Felonies and Related Matters

Misdemeanor

Other Criminally Related Matters

Administrative Law
Contested Divorce
Uncontested Divorce

Domestic and Family - Level 1
Domestic and Family - Level 2

General Civil - Level 1 General Civil - Level 2 General Civil - Level 3

Probates/Wills and Trusts - Level 1
Probates/Wills and Trusts - Level 2

Protective Orders
Miscellaneous (Civil)

General District Court
Infraction/ Civil Violation

Misdemeanor Felony Garnishment Landlord /Tenant General Civil Protective Orders

Involuntary Civil Commitments

Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court

Child Dependency

Child in Need of Services/Supervision

Custody and Visitation Juvenile Miscellaneous

Delinquency
Traffic
Adult Criminal
Protective Orders

Support

## E. Interpreter Use and Attorney Configuration

Central to this study was the accurate measurement of the judicial work associated with court interpretation and with alternative attorney and self-represented litigant configurations.

Incorporating these features required reliable and valid counts of the number of cases (filings) involving interpreters and those not involving interpreters, as well as case counts for different attorney/pro se arrangements in each of the circuits and districts. To collect these data, judges tracked and recorded the number of hearings held, as well as the amount of time spent on hearings, with and without an interpreter and for alternative attorney/self-represented litigant configurations.

#### F. Non-Case-Related Events

To cover the full range of judicial work, separate definitions of non-case-related events were developed for each court type. Some essential judicial activities and responsibilities, such as court administration, travel among various courts within a circuit or district, and committee meetings, are not directly related to a particular case before the court. These activities are defined as "non-case-related" events. To simplify data collection, lunch and breaks were also included as non-case-related events. Exhibit 2 lists the non-case-related event categories; Appendix B provides specific examples of activities that fall into each category.

#### Exhibit 2: Non-Case-Related Events

Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court Circuit Court/General District Court Non-Case-Related Administration DC-40: DC-41 Vouchers General Legal Research Non-Case-Related Administration Judicial Education and Training General Legal Research Committee Meetings, Other Meetings, and Related Work Judicial Education and Training Community Activities and Public Outreach Committee Meetings, Other Meetings, and Related Work Work-Related Travel Community Activities and Public Outreach **Lunch and Breaks** Work-Related Travel Lunch and Breaks **NCSC Time Study** NCSC Time Study

## G. Virginia Population Trends

Overall, the population in the Commonwealth increased 18% between 2000 and 2016. However, the rate and direction of change varied considerably by county and city, with northern and central Virginia seeing the largest increases. Exhibit 3 shows population percentage change for this time period. The largest increases occurred in Loudoun County (122%), Prince William County (60%), New Kent County (56%), and Stafford County (54%); while the largest declines were seen in Buchanan County (-17%), Accomack County (-14%), Danville City (-13%) and Martinsville City (-12%). Detailed information on population change by county and city as well as by judicial circuit is provided in Appendix C.

Exhibit 3: Percent Population Change in Virginia, 2000-2016



A question that often comes up is whether the number of cases filed in a particular court is related to the population of people living in that jurisdiction. And by extension, whether a given change in population will lead to a given change in case filings. While places with more people tend to have more case filings, the correlation between the two is not always strong. For example, during the period under study. statewide caseloads in Virginia have tended to be steady or show some declines, while overall population has risen statewide. To investigate the issue more systematically, NCSC drew on seven years of jurisdiction-level caseload data by case type for the circuit court, general district court, and juvenile and domestic relations district courts to examine the relationship between caseload trends and population trends.

The analysis employs a statistical modeling analysis called ordinary least squares regression to examine the relationship between variation in case filing trends and variation in population trends. The caseload data come from the years 2010 to 2016 and contemporaneous population estimates for each locality were obtained from the Census Bureau's "Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Counties". The hypothesis being tested is that the number of cases filed in a particular jurisdiction during a given year can be estimated by knowing how many cases of a similar type were filed the year before and the annual change in population. Exhibit 4 shows the results of this analysis on the extent to which change in jurisdiction-level caseload (the dependent variable) appears to be caused (or explained) by the previous year's caseload and the annual difference in population (the independent variables).2

Exhibit 4: Ordinary Least Squares Model of Caseload by Type and Court

		Circuit Court			General District Coun	Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court		
Variables	Civil	Criminal	Domestic/ Family	Civil	Criminal	Traffic	Delinquency/ Criminal	Civil
Previous year's filings	0.91	0.97	1	0,96	0,96	0.96	8,96	0.90
Population change (in thousands)	-6.51	13.16	1.55	57.39	35,89	81.97	4.1	43.41

Coefficients in bold are significantly different from zero at a p < .05 level.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Population (divided by 1,000) is differenced, because the relationship we are trying to detect is whether positive or negative changes in population have an impact on yearly caseload, rather than the contemporaneous or previous level of population does.

Controlling for population, the changes in caseload from one year to the next (variable named Previous year's filings) are almost all less than one which suggests the trend is downward. For example, the coefficient of .96 for general district court civil cases means that the estimate for the current year's total of civil filing is 96% of the previous year's total. Only the trend in domestic/family cases in the circuit court is non-negative, and the trend for those cases is flat. All of the caseload trend coefficients are also statistically significant.

Turning to the differenced population estimates, coefficients show the estimated increase in case filings of a particular type when population increases by 1,000. For example, the coefficient of 57.39 for general district court civil means that an increase in population of 1,000 people will lead to an increase of about 57 new civil case filings. The findings are only statistically significant for the civil and criminal caseloads in general district court and civil cases in juvenile and domestic relations district court. Moreover, while the estimated effects are positive, they are not large. There are two main findings that come out of this analysis. First, the number of case filings by casetype in one year are closely related to the number of such cases filed in the previous year. Second, changes in population are only weakly associated with changes in the number of case filings.

## H. Availability of Law Clerks

NCSC staff conducted a survey of the chief judges to determine the availability of law clerks in each of the circuits and to summarize their primary responsibilities. Information on the number of law clerks currently working in the circuit courts is not readily available at a statewide level because law clerks are locally funded, hired and supported. Data from the survey show a total of 72 FTE locality-funded law clerks working in select locations in 22 of 31 circuits. One key finding is that there is substantial variation in the level of these resources across circuits. The locations that employ law clerks, the number, and basic information on the types of cases they work on is provided in Appendix D.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Although all of the autocorrelation coefficients are positively signed, the fact that every coefficient except for domestic/family cases in the circuits is below 1 indicates that the baseline trend for these series is decline. Controlling for population, the expected caseload in each series is less than the caseload in the previous year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The coefficients are all statistically significant, meaning they are likely greater than 0, but this merely confirms that for every caseload series, the level in one year is very close to the level in the previous year. In other words, every series is very persistent.

#### III. TIME STUDY

To establish a baseline measure of current practice, project staff conducted a statewide time study in which trial court judges recorded the amount of time they spent on cases of each case type category as well as on non-case-related work, and whether an interpreter or attorney(s) was involved in each hearing. Separately, OES provided counts of filings by case type category and jurisdiction. NCSC staff used the time study results and caseload data to calculate the average number of minutes currently spent resolving cases within each case type category (preliminary case weights). In addition, time study data informed the amount of time judges have available to spend on case-related and noncase-related matters during the work year.

#### A. Time Study

From March 20, 2017, through April 30, 2017, all circuit and district court judges in the Commonwealth of Virginia were asked to track all their working time by case type category, including both on and off bench case-related work, or by non-case-related work, using a Webbased form. In addition, the General Assembly requested that the time study look explicitly at the impact of two key factors on judicial workload: (a) self-represented litigants and (b) use of an interpreter. Toward this end, for circuit court and general district court, the time study was conducted in two, three-week phases.

- For the first three weeks of the time study, judges tracked time spent on cases and distinguished whether (a) no party or (b) one or more parties was represented by an attorney.
- During the second three-week period, judges tracked the time spent on cases and distinguished whether (a) no interpreter was used or (b) an interpreter was present.

During both phases of the time study, judges also tracked all out-of-court work, including off-bench work related to cases and non-case-related work.

Juvenile and domestic relations district court judges tracked and recorded time hearing-by-hearing throughout the course of the day for the entire six-week period. Data provided include the duration of each hearing, the case type, the total number of attorneys present at the hearing, and whether an interpreter was involved. Judges also tracked all out-of-court work, including off-bench work related to cases and non-case-related work.

To maximize data quality, all time study participants were asked to view a training video designed specifically for their court level explaining how to categorize and record their time. In addition to the training videos, judges were provided with Web-based reference materials, and NCSC staff were available to answer questions by telephone and e-mail. A total of 380 full-time judges, or 96 percent of all Virginia trial court judges, participated in the time study. This high participation rate ensured sufficient data to develop an accurate and reliable portrait of current practice.

#### **B.** Caseload Data

To translate the time study data, which measures the aggregate amount of time judges spend processing all cases of each type, into the preliminary case weights, which measure the average amount of judicial time spent on a single case of each type, it was necessary to determine how many individual cases of each type are filed on an annual basis. The Office of the Executive Secretary (OES) provided three years of filing data from May 2014 through April 2017, by case type category and jurisdiction.<sup>5</sup>

To address year-to-year fluctuations in filings data, the caseload data for all three years were used to calculate the average of an annual count of filings within each case type category. Using a three-year annual average rather than the caseload data for one particular year serves to reduce the influence of short-term fluctuations in particular filing categories, while ensuring long-term trends in the number of filings are incorporated into the model. Exhibit 5 displays the statewide filings by case type and year, along with the annual averages.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> All district courts and 118 of 120 circuit courts use the statewide case management systems developed and maintained by OES. The two circuit courts that do not use the statewide circuit case management system, Alexandria and Fairfax, provided their courts' caseload data to OES separately so that it could be included in the data provided to the NCSC.

Exhibit 5: Statewide Case Filings, May 2014 - April 2017\*

				3-year
Circuit Court Case Type	2014	2015	2016	average**
Capital Murder	51	79	64	62
Non-Capital Felonies and Related Matters	123,994	123,538	129,509	125,681
Misdemesnor	41,565	42,800	43,427	42,593
Other Criminally Related Matters	15,229	14,854	14,717	14,936
Administrative Law	475	499	622	530
Contested Divorce	10,081	10,505	10,217	10,269
Uncontested Divorce	25,247	25,118	24,507	24,958
Domestic and Family - Level 1	6,458	7,244	7,552	7,089
Domestic and Family - Level 2	4,794	4,588	4,693	4,696
General Civil - Level 1	1,299	1,218	1,158	1,217
General Civil - Level 2	16,926	16,466	16,693	16,697
General Civil • Level 3	8,825	9,729	9,768	9,443
Probates/Wills and Trusts - Level 1	507	500	506	506
Probates/Wills and Trusts - Level 2	2,710	2,811	2,971	2,885
Protective Orders	1,072	1,36B	1,450	1,294
Miscellaneous (Civil)	122,773	155,727	148,764	142,427
Total Circuit Court	382,006	417,054	416,618	405,233
	,	·	·	
				3-year
General District Court Case Type	2014	2015	2016	everage
Infraction***/ Civil Violation	860,172	759,422	735,179	784,927
Misdameanor	573,737	536,061	529,437	546,408
Felony	98,658	97,457	101,924	99,344
Garn/shment	178,764	184,439	175,370	179,523
Landlord / Tenant	173,395	167,724	166,979	169,365
General Civil	312,002	322,493	322,275	318,921
Protective Orders	12,704	14,218	14,485	13,803
Involuntary Civil Commitments	1,652	1,948	2,110	1,969
Total General District Court	2,211,284	2,083,762	2,047,759	2,114,261
Juvenile and Domestic Relations				3-year
District Court Case Type	2014	2015	2016	sverage
Child Dependency	22,799	21,914	22,339	22,348
Child in Need of Services/Supervision	4,257	4,207	4,275	4,247
Custody and Visitation	135,496	143,609	139,114	139,405
Juvenile Miscellaneous	7,149	6,653	5,97 <del>9</del>	6,593
Definquency	45,819	42,232	40,740	42,929
Traffic	16,609	14,845	14,117	15,189
Adult Criminal	103,678	106,074	105,016	104,924
Protective Orders	17,372	18,497	19,189	18,353
Support	94,887	87,698	79,987	87,525
Total J&DR District Court	448,066	445,739	430,756	441,513

<sup>\*</sup> The filling data for 2014 covers the period May 1, 2014 to April 30, 2015; the filling data for 2015 covers the period May 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016; and the filling data for 2016 covers the period May 1, 2016 to April 30, 2017.

<sup>\*\*</sup>For each individual jurisdiction by court type, the fillings for each of the three years were added and used to calculate a 3-year average by case type, rounded to the nearest whole number. The Individual jurisdiction 3-year averages were then summed to come up with an overall 3-year average by case type for the circuit court, general district court, and juvenile and domestic relations court.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Filing numbers do not include prepaid traffic infractions

#### C. Preliminary Case Weights

Following the six-week data collection period, the time study and caseload data were used together to calculate preliminary case weights. A preliminary case weight represents the average amount of time a judge currently spends to process each case of a particular type, from filing through all post-disposition activity. The use of separate case weights for different case types accounts for the fact that cases of varying levels of complexity require different amounts of time to resolve effectively. For example, the case weight for felonies should be larger than the case weight for misdemeanors because the typical felony case is more serious and complex because of the number of possible witnesses. hearings, and motions, and therefore requires more judicial time than the typical misdemeanor.

The NCSC recommended, and the Committee adopted the recommendation, that the workload assessment should result in a single set of case weights for each type of court to estimate judicial need. That is, there is a separate set of statewide case weights for the circuit courts, the general district courts, and the juvenile and domestic relations district courts. The decision to adopt a single set of case weights for each type of court is consistent with the approach used in most other states employing weighted caseload. As discussed below, the model incorporates case weight adjustments based on above average use of interpreters or presence of more complex attorney configurations. The use of this modeling strategy will help ensure resource equity across the Commonwealth.

To calculate the preliminary case weight for each case type category, all judge time associated with the case type during the time study was summed and weighted to the equivalent of one full year's worth of time, then divided by the corresponding annual filings. For example, the time study data reveal that Virginia circuit court judges currently spend a total of nearly 5.5 million minutes per year processing Non-Capital Felony cases. Dividing the total time by the annual average circuit court Non-Capital Felony filings (125,681) yields a preliminary case weight of 44 minutes. This indicates that, on average, circuit court judges in Virginia devote 44 minutes of time to each Non-Capital Felony case throughout the life of the case. Exhibit 6 shows the calculation of the preliminary case weights for all case type categories. The Committee reviewed and adopted the preliminary case weights recommended by the NCSC as an accurate representation of the time Virginia's judges currently devote to adjudicating cases.

See Appendix A for the definition of what is included in this case type category.

**Exhibit 6: Preliminary Case Weights** 

Circuit Court Case Type	Time Study (minutes)	+	Filings (average)		Case Weight (minutes)
Capital Murder	51,832	+	62	Ŧ	836
Non-Capital Felonies and Related Matters	5,529,964	+	125,681	=	44
Misdemas nor	425,930	+	42,593	=	10
Other Criminally Related Matters	388,336	+	14,936	=	26
Administrative Law	20,140	+	530	=	38
Contested Divorce	975,555	+	10,269	=	95
Uncontested Divorce	299,496	÷	24,958	=	12
Domestic and Family - Level 1	730,167	+	7,089	=	103
Domestic and Family - Level 2	300,544	+	4,696	=	64
General Civil - Level 1	634,057	÷	1,217	=	521
General Civil - Level 2	1,068,608	+	16,697	=	64
General Civil - Level 3	481,593	÷	9,443	×	51
Probates/Wills and Trusts - Level 1	146,234	+	506	=	289
Probates/Wills and Trusts - Level 2	70,875	+	2,835	=	25
Protective Orders	58,230	+	1,294	-	45
Miscellaneous (Civil)	284,854	+	142,427	=	2

	Time Study		Filings		Case Weight
General District Court Case Type	(minutes)	+	(average)	=	(minutes)
Infraction/ Civil Violation	1,648,347	+	784,927	=	2.1
Misdemeanor	2,950,603	+	546,408	=	5.4
Felony	1,390,816	+	99,344	=	14.0
Garnishment	179,523	÷	179,523	*	1.0
Landlord /Tenant	355,669	+	169,366	=	2.1
General Civil	1,275,684	+	318,921	=	4.0
Protective Orders	179,439	+	13,803	*	13.0
Involuntary Civil Commitments	9,845	÷	1,959		5.0

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Case Type	Time Study (minutes)	+	Filings (average)	*	Case Weight (minutes)
Child Dependency	804,528	+	22,348	-	36
Child in Need of Services/Supervision	288,796	+	4,247	=	68
Custody and Visitation	2,927,505	+	139,405	-	21
Juvenile Miscellaneous	131,860	÷	6,593	=	20
Delinquency	987,367	+	42,929	=	23
Traffic	151,890	+	15,189		10
Adult Criminal	1,468,936	÷	104,924	=	14
Protective Orders	550,590	+	18,353	=	30
Support	1,225,350	•	87,525	=	14

### D. Day and Year Values

In any weighted caseload system, three factors contribute to the calculation of judicial need: caseload data (filings), case weights, and the judge year value. The year value is the amount of time each full-time judge has available for case-related work on an annual basis. The relationship among the filings, case weights, and year value is expressed as follows:

Filings x Case Weights (minutes) \_ Judge Need Judge Year Value (minutes) \_ (FTE)

Multiplying the filings by the corresponding case weights calculates the total annual judicial workload in minutes. Dividing the workload by the judge year value yields the total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) judges needed to handle the workload.

To develop the judge year value, it is necessary to determine the number of days judges have available for case-related work in each year (judge year), as well as how to divide the work day between case-related and non-case-related time (judge day). Computing a judge year is accomplished by determining how many days must be subtracted from a calendar year to account for weekends, holidays, judicial conferences, vacation days, and sick time.

After considering all these factors, at its initial meeting in November of 2016, JNAC reviewed and confirmed the use of a 216-day judge year for circuit and district court judges (consistent with the value used in 2013). The value of 216 days is reached by beginning with 365 days and subtracting weekends, legal holidays, vacation

days, sick leave days, and days devoted to judicial education and committee work. A judge year value of 216 days is consistent with the value adopted in other states.

The judge day value represents the amount of time each judge has available for case- related work during each workday. The JNAC confirmed a total working day for all judges of 8.5 hours, including lunch, breaks, and noncase-related work. While the judicial workday in each type of court assumes a common baseline of 8.5 hours per day, there are differences in the breakdown between case-related and non-case related time. Non-case-related time is defined as time spent on judicial functions not directly related to case processing, yet essential to the efficiency and effectiveness of court operations such as docket management, administrative time, travel time, legal research and judicial administrative meetings. Drawing on the day value adopted in 2013 and with reference to the 2017 time study day, the JNAC elected to keep the same judge day values used in the previous study.

Exhibit 7 shows the final day and year values. Each year value represents the total number of minutes one judge has available in one year for case-related work. For example, the year value of 75,168 minutes for circuit court judges in single-jurisdiction courts indicates that each judge has 75,168 minutes, or 5.8 hours per day for 216 days per year, to devote to case-related work. Virginia's judicial year values for case-related work are similar to those being used in other states.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Two-hundred-fifteen days is the median judge year from twenty-two different judicial workload studies conducted by the NCSC. For example, Michigan and Alabama have adopted a judge year of 215 days and Tennessee and North Carolina have adopted a judge year of 217 days.

Exhibit 7: Judge Day and Year Values

		Circuit Court		General D	strict Court	JDR Olstrict Court	
		Single Jurisdiction	Multi Jurisdiction	Single Jurisdiction	Muhi Jurisliction	Single Jurisdiction	Multi Jurisdiction
Total working hours per day		7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
Non-case related time	-	1.7	2.0	2.0	2.3	2.0	2.3
Judge Day Value (haurs)	-	5.8	5.5	5.5	5,2	5.5	5.2
Minutes per hour	×	60	60	60	60	60	60
Total Days	×	216	216	216	216	216	216
Judge Year Value (minutes)	=	75,168	71,280	71,200	67,392	71,280	67,392

## E. Interpreter and Self-Represented Litigant Adjustments

It should be noted that the preliminary case weights incorporate a baseline level of time that reflects the average impact of interpreters and self-represented litigants on the amount of time spent by judges handling cases. That is, by design, the case weights reflect the average amount of time spent by judges statewide handling all types of cases and so will include the average statewide amount of time associated with interpreter cases and cases involving selfrepresented litigants. A question for this study is whether variation in alternative attorney configurations and in the level of interpreter activity around the state may result in the underreporting of judicial need in areas where more time intensive attorney configurations are present or interpreter activity is high.

To accurately measure the judicial work associated with different attorney configurations and with court interpretation requires reliable and valid counts of the number of cases (filings) involving alternative attorney configurations/interpreters and those not involving alternative attorney configurations/interpreters in each of the circuits and districts. Although the statewide case management systems developed and maintained by the Office of the Executive Secretary (OES) can capture self-represented litigants and the

need for language access services in a case, data quality is somewhat inconsistent and does not allow for differentiation of the time spent on cases by type. Therefore, during the time study, judges tracked both the number and duration of hearings involving alternative attorney configuration/interpreters and those that did not.

With respect to self-represented litigants (and alternative attorney configurations), judges in circuit court held 10,185 hearings with self-represented litigants, or about 6% of all hearings held. The relatively small number of hearings involving self-represented litigants and the similar distribution across circuits led the JNAC to conclude that no additional adjustment is needed to the case weights to accommodate self-represented litigants in the circuit court.

For general district court, judges conducted 594,950 hearings with self-represented litigants, or about 54% of all hearings held. For four case types (garnishments and interrogatories, landlord/tenant, general civil and protective orders), the amount of judge time spent on cases involving self-represented litigants was essentially the same as the time spent on cases without self-represented litigants. For the other three case types (traffic infraction/civil violation, misdemeanor, and felony), the time judges spent on cases involving self-represented litigants was about one-half the time spent on cases without a self-represented litigant. However, while the

duration of time was different, the proportion of cases involving self-represented litigants was very similar across the districts. This finding means that the statewide case weights incorporate the observed variation in time associated with self-represented litigants. Given these results across the general district case types (the small number of involuntary commitment cases is insufficient to warrant their inclusion in this analysis), the JNAC determined no additional adjustment to the case weights is needed to accommodate self-represented litigants in general district court.

For the juvenile and domestic relations district courts, the time study showed there were differences in the time spent by judges handling various types of cases depending on whether 0, 1, 2, or 3 or more attorneys were involved in the case. Judicial time tended to increase with greater attorney participation and was greatest for cases with 3 or more attorneys involved. In addition, the proportion of cases meeting alternative attorney configurations varied by district. Data from the time study were used to produce adjustments to the case weights based on attorney configuration and case type and applied individually to each district if the proportion of cases meeting a particular attorney configuration exceeded the statewide average. The NCSC recommended, and the JNAC approved, that the proportion of cases receiving the upward adjustment be calculated as the positive difference between the district percentage and the statewide percentage. The statewide average for attorney configuration by casetype is shown in Exhibit 8. For example, for custody and visitation cases statewide, 45% of cases had 0 attorneys, 30% had 1 attorney, 15% had 2 attorneys and 10% had 3 or more attorneys. Time study results show that when 2 attorneys are involved in a custody and visitation case, the case takes about 1.5 times longer; when 3 or more attorneys are involved, the case takes about 2 times as long. Therefore, if 20% of a given district's custody and visitation cases involve 2 attorneys, which is above the statewide average of 15%, then 5% of that district's custody and visitation cases (20% minus 15%) will receive an upward adjustment of 1.5 times the case weight. The share of cases above the statewide average for each casetype and attorney configuration by district is presented in Appendix E.

Turning to the impact of interpreter usage, the time study results reveal that use of interpreter services varies by court level and by jurisdiction. Exhibit 9 presents the proportion of hearings with interpreter use for all three court levels. Summary bar charts, by circuit/district. show usage by court-level and by jurisdiction. Overall, in circuit court, about 1.23 percent of the total hearings held involved an interpreter. On average, hearings with an interpreter took 1.5 times as long as hearings without an interpreter. In general district court, 2.19 percent of hearings involved an interpreter and hearings with an interpreter took 2.25 times as long as hearings without. In juvenile and domestic relations district court, 3.79 percent of hearings involved an interpreter and these hearings took 1.5 times as long as hearings without an interpreter.

Exhibit 8: Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court, Attorney Configuration

% Hearings by		Child in Need								
Attorney	CHM4	of Services/	Custody and	Arvenile			Adelt	Protective		
Configuration	Departiency	Supervision	Visitation	Miscellaneous	Deliequency	Traffic	Criminai	Orders	Support	Total
0 attorney	10%	25%	4516	40%	20%	75%	30%	70%	25%	32%
1 attorney	10%	35%	30%	38%	35%	20%	40%	15%	50K	35%
2 attorney	15%	30%	15%	28%	40%	SH	30%	10%	25%	25%
8+ attorney	65%	10%	10%	10%	3%	0%	0%	5%	GK.	5%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Exhibit 9: Proportion of Hearings with Interpreter Use

25
1956 1956 1956 1956 1956 1956 1956 1956
25% 25% 25% 25% 25% 25% 25% 25% 25% 25%
25% 25% 26% 26% 26% 26% 26% 26% 26% 26% 26% 26
25% 26% 26% 26% 26% 27% 28% 29% 29% 29% 29% 29% 29% 29% 29% 29% 29
OX 75 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Properties of Hearings with independent and Occassificht 125 mm 1
Proportion of Heavings with independent by Awarenia and Domestic for 12 to 12
Proportion of Hear lugs with Inderpreter by Javanille and Domestic Range 15%  15%  15%  16%

Percentages in bold are above the statewide average "District 32 is 2A

Circuit court has the lowest frequency of hearings involving an interpreter, and juvenile and domestic relations district court has the highest. Additionally, select jurisdictions have a higher proportion of hearings with interpreter services. For example, roughly 20 to 25 percent of hearings in the juvenile and domestic relations district courts in the 17th (Arlington), 18th (Alexandria), and 19th (Fairfax) judicial districts involve an interpreter, as compared to about one percent of hearings in the juvenile and domestic relations district courts in the 2nd (Virginia Beach) and 4th (Norfolk) judicial districts.

Like the method used for alternative attorney configurations, the NCSC recommended, and the JNAC approved, that the interpreter multiplier be applied in situations where the proportion of interpreter cases exceeds the statewide average (i.e., the circuits and districts in Exhibit 9 where the percent hearings with interpreter is in bold). The multiplier is applied to the share of judicial workload involving an interpreter in those circumstances where the measured proportion of hearings involving an interpreter is greater than the statewide average. Exhibits 10 - 12 show the interpreter and attorney configuration multipliers by court level and case type.

Exhibit 10: Multipliers for Above Average Interpreter Usage and the Presence of Self-Represented Litigants, Circuit Court

		Multiplier			
	Case Weight	Interpreter	Self- represented		
Capital Murder	836	1	1		
Non-Capital Felonies and Related Matters	44	1.5	1		
Misdemeanor	10	1.5	1		
Other Criminally Related Matters	26	1	1		
Administrative Law	38	1	1		
Contested Divorce	95	1.5	1		
Uncontested Divorce	12	1.5	1		
Domestic and Family - Level 1	103	1.5	1		
Domestic and Family - Level 2	64	1.5	1		
General Civil - Level 1	521	1,5	1		
General Civil - Level 2	64	1.5	1		
General Civil - Level 3	51	1.5	1		
Probates/Wills and Trusts - Level 1	289	1	1		
Probates/Wills and Trusts - Level 2	25	1	1		
Protective Orders	45	1	1		
Miscellaneous (Civil)	2	1	1		

Exhibit 11: Multipliers for Above Average Interpreter Usage and the Presence of Self-Represented Litigants, General District Court

		Multiplier			
	Case Weight	Interpreter	Self- represented		
Infraction/ Civil Violation	2.1	2.25	1		
Misdemeanor	5.4	2.25	1		
Felony	14.0	2.25	1		
Garnishment	1.0	2.25	1		
Landlord /Tenant	2.1	2.25	1		
General Civil	4.0	2.25	1		
Protective Orders	13.0	2.25	1		
Involuntary Civil Commitments	5.0	2.25	1		

Exhibit 12: Multipliers for Above Average Interpreter Usage and the Presence of More Complex Attorney Configurations, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

				Multiplier		
	Case Weight	Interpreter	0 atty	1 atty	2 atty	3+ atty
Child Dependency	36	1.5	8.0	1	1	1.1
Child in Need of Services/Supervision	68	1.5	8.0	1	1	1.5
Custody and Visitation	21	1.5	0.8	1	1.5	2
Juvenite Miscellaneous	20	1.5	1	1	1	1
Delinquency	23	1.5	8.0	1	1	1,5
Traffic	10	1.5	1	1	1	1
Adult Criminal	14	1.5	8.0	1	1	2
Protective Orders	30	1,5	8.0	1	1,5	2
Support	14	1_5	1	1	1	1

## F. Chief Judge Adjustment

In each judicial circuit and district, one judge serves as chief judge of each level of court to provide administrative supervision over that particular level of court within the judicial circuit and district. Because of these responsibilities, chief judges spend a greater proportion of each day on non-case-related work than do typical trial court judges. Therefore,

when the need for circuit and district court judges is calculated solely based on the judge year values, the model does not incorporate time for chief judges to perform their unique administrative duties. Drawing on the time study data submitted by chief judges, JNAC chose to include a chief judge adjustment of .1 FTE for each circuit and district. This is the same value used in the 2013 study and is common in statewide judicial workload studies.

## IV. QUALITY ADJUSTMENTS

The preliminary case weights generated during the time study measure the amount of time judges currently spend handling various types of cases, but do not necessarily indicate whether this is the amount of time judges should spend. To examine the extent to which current resource constraints impact judicial case processing practices, project staff made site visits to conduct interviews with judges in a variety of circuit and district courts, and administered a Web-based Sufficiency of Time Survey to all judges statewide. Informed by the survey and interview results, as well as their own experience, three expert panels of experienced judges reviewed the preliminary case weights to ensure they provide sufficient time for efficient and effective case processing.

#### A. Site Visits

To gain an in-depth understanding of the issues judges face in the effective handling of their cases, NCSC staff scheduled visits to circuit, general district, and juvenile and domestic relations district courts in 9 judicial circuits and districts covering 27 jurisdictions. Participating sites included both urban and rural courts from all geographic regions of the state. During the site visits, judges and court staff participated in structured group and individual interviews. The interviews allowed project staff to document procedures and practices believed to increase efficiency and quality, as well as resource constraints that might inhibit effectiveness.

Across all three court types, judges stress the importance of fully explaining orders and rulings and addressing the needs of self-represented litigants. Judges assert that taking

the time to ensure that the parties fully understand the conditions and requirements of probation, pretrial release, protective orders, and foster care plans, can improve compliance, enhancing public safety and child well-being. District court judges also express a need for more time to explain to self-represented litigants their rights and responsibilities, as well as the consequences of waiving the right to an attorney.

Judges across the state emphasize the importance of strong support staff and dedicated court clerks. There is concern that most clerks' offices are under-staffed. Additionally, judges in circuit courts without law clerk support felt that if they had access to a law clerk or a judicial secretary to assist with tasks such as preparing case summaries, taking notes during hearings, and assisting with drafting opinions and orders that would enable judges to make more timely decisions, and therefore save judges' time and increase the court's efficiency.

Judges who sit in multiple locations frequently underscore the importance of having case files available remotely, which allows them to prepare in advance for upcoming hearings and to take advantage of courtroom downtime to work on other cases. When documents are not available electronically, these judges have little opportunity to review case files before taking the bench.

A consistent theme from the site visits is that when the number of judges in a particular circuit or district falls below recommended levels, there is a negative impact on the efficient and effective resolution of cases. In these

<sup>\*</sup> Site visits were made to the following judicial circuits and districts: 4, 7, 8, 16, 19, 20, 25 and 27 and, due to scheduling difficulties, a conference call was held with the judges and staff in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Circuit and District.

circumstances, judges are often forced to meet the excess demand by holding shorter hearings. scheduling trial dates further and further out, and are often forced to 'bump' cases and reschedule them to a future date. Judges also have less time to thoroughly prepare for hearings. Further, to deal with the high volume of cases, judges are often forced to work through lunch and breaks and work longer hours to meet the increased demand. This is especially true for judges who handle high volume dockets. These judges expressed a concern for the growing number of cases on their dockets and the adverse impact this has on the health of individual judges. All of these factors contribute to increasing the time to disposition and an erosion of procedural satisfaction and the overall quality of justice.

#### B. Sufficiency of Time Survey

To provide a statewide perspective on areas of concern in relation to current practice, all circuit, general district, and juvenile and domestic relations district court judges statewide were asked to complete a web-based survey. For each case-related event (e.g., Pre-Trial, Disposition), judges were asked to identify particular tasks, if any, where additional time would allow them to more effectively handle their cases. It is important to note that if judges felt no additional time was needed, the survey included an option for judges to indicate this. The survey also included questions regarding non-case-related duties, as well as space for judges to comment freely on their workload.

A total of 87 circuit court judges, 67 general district court judges, and 71 juvenile and domestic relations district court judges completed the survey. Across all three court levels, judges reported that the use of interpreters slows the pace of proceedings. Judges state that more time is required to explain orders and rulings to non-English-speaking litigants, detracting from time available to conduct other aspects of a proceeding.

Additionally, circuit and general district judges indicated that conducting trials and final hearings, addressing the issues surrounding self-represented litigants, ensuring that parties feel that their questions and concerns have been addressed, and explaining orders and rulings as specific activities for which additional time would most improve the quality of justice. In juvenile and domestic relations cases, judges indicated a need for additional time to prepare for, conduct, and prepare recommendations, findings, and orders related to trials and final hearings, as well as to address the needs of self-represented litigants.

Lastly, judges stated that they feel they do not always have time to complete administrative tasks. Full dockets often require them to work after hours and on weekends to stay current with these responsibilities.

Several common themes emerged during the interviews as well as in the comments of the sufficiency of time survey. These qualitative findings were presented to the Delphi groups to assist the groups in identifying activities potentially warranting quality adjustments.

court judges were asked to select up to three activities in each of three categories (Pre-Trial Activities, Trial/Disposition Activities, Post-Judgment/Post-Disposition Activities). Juvenile and domestic relations district court judges were asked to select up to six activities in each of three categories (Pre-Disposition Activities, Disposition Activities, Post-Disposition Activities).

Por simplicity, some case-related event categories were combined for purposes of the sufficiency of time survey. The maximum number of selections varied by court type based upon the total number of activities in each event category. Circuit court judges were asked to select up to five activities in each of three categories (Pre-Trial Activities, Trial/Disposition Activities, Post-Judgment/Post-Disposition Activities). General district

### C. Delphi Quality Adjustment Groups

To provide a qualitative review of the preliminary case weights, NCSC staff facilitated a series of three separate quality adjustment sessions in September 2017 with Delphi groups of seasoned judges; one for each court type. Delphi group members represented a variety of single-jurisdiction and multi-jurisdiction courts across the state. During each Delphi session, NCSC staff provided group members with a brief overview of the process used to develop the preliminary case weights, followed by a review of the sufficiency of time survey and site visit results.

Using a variant of the Delphi method—a structured, iterative process for decision-making by a panel of experts—judges engaged in a systematic review of the preliminary case weights. Group members drew on current practice (as measured by the time study), judicial perspective (as measured by the sufficiency of time survey and the site visits), and their personal experience on the bench to make recommendations regarding the content of the final case weights.

Each group was asked to follow a four-step process:

- Review each preliminary case weight by case type and event and identify specific case types and activities where additional time would allow a judge to more effectively handle the case, as well as areas where efficiency might be gained;
- Within particular case types, recommend adjustments to the time allotted to specific case-related functions;

- Provide an explicit rationale to support any proposed increase or reduction in judicial time: and
- Review and revise the recommended adjustments until a consensus was reached that all adjustments were necessary and reasonable.

This iterative, consensus-based review of the case weights was designed to ensure that all recommended adjustments were reasonable and designed to produce specific benefits to the public such as improvements in public safety, cost savings, increases in procedural justice, and improved compliance with court orders. This process also ensures that the statewide perspective gained from the site visits and sufficiency of time survey, along with the input of all Delphi group members, is incorporated into the final workload model.

The Delphi groups evaluated the case weights by focusing on distinct case-related events within each case type category. For each adjustment, the group was asked to specify both the amount of time to be added or subtracted and the percentage of cases in which this adjustment was required (frequency of adjustment). For example, the general district court Delphi group recommended adding 5 minutes to the predisposition activity event in 5% of landlord/tenant cases. This adjustment was recommended to maintain emphasis on procedural due process and allow for additional time to explain procedures, orders, and rulings to self-represented litigants.

Before being incorporated into the applicable case weight, each adjustment was multiplied by the corresponding frequency. For example, the 5-minute adjustment for pre-disposition activity in landlord/tenant cases was multiplied by 5% to yield a net case weight adjustment of .2 minutes per case. 10

As another example, members of the juvenile and domestic relations district court Delphi group saw the need for spending additional time at disposition for a small percentage of child dependency cases. By increasing the time by 5 minutes in 15% of the cases, the group sought to provide judges with extra time to prepare detailed, written findings and orders at the adjudicatory hearing to memorialize the basis for the findings of the case.

Following the Delphi sessions, JNAC reviewed and adopted the Delphi groups' recommendations. Exhibit 13 shows the preliminary and quality-adjusted case weights for all case type categories. Appendix F contains a detailed list of the Delphi adjustments, along with the rationale for each adjustment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> For events that do not occur in every case (e.g., trial/contested disposition), each adjustment was multiplied by both the frequency of adjustment and the percentage of cases in which the event occurs (frequency of event).

Exhibit 13: Preliminary and Quality-Adjusted Case Weights

	Case Weights (minutes)			
Circuit Court	Time Study	Delphi		
Capital Murder	836	867		
Non-Capital Felonies and Related Matters	44	45		
Misdemeanor	10	10		
Other Criminally Related Matters	26	26		
Administrative Law	38	49		
Contested Divorce	95	95		
Uncontested Divorce	12	12		
Domestic and Family - Lavel 1	103	103		
Domestic and Family - Level 2	64	64		
General Civil - Level 1	521	544		
General Civil - Level 2	64	64		
General Civil - Level 3	51	51		
Probates/Wills and Trusts - Level 1	289	289		
Probates/Wills and Trusts - Level 2	25	25		
Protective Orders	45	45		
Miscellaneous (Civil)	2	2		

	Case Weights (minutes			
General District Court	Time Study	Delphi		
Infraction/ Civil Violation	2.1	2,1		
Misdemeanor	5.4	5.5		
Felony	14.0	14.0		
Garnishment	1.0	1.0		
Landlord /Tenant	2.1	2.3		
General Civil	4.0	4,2		
Protective Orders	13.0	13.0		
Involuntary Civil Commitments	5.0	5.0		

	Case Weights (minutes)			
Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court	Time Study	Delphi		
Child Dependency	36	45		
Child in Need of Services/Supervision	68	68		
Custody and Visitation	21	23		
Juvenile Miscellaneous	20	20		
Delinquency	23	23		
Traffic	10	10		
Adult Criminal	14	15		
Protective Orders	30	31		
Support	14	14		

## V. CALCULATION OF TOTAL JUDICIAL NEED

At the conclusion of the quality adjustment process, the total number of judges needed in each circuit and district was calculated using the quality-adjusted case weights. First, each circuit/district total workload in minutes was calculated by multiplying the annual filings for each case type category by the corresponding case weight, then summing the result for all case type categories. The circuit/district total workload was then divided by the appropriate judge year value to yield the total number of

judges needed to handle the court's workload. When appropriate, as discussed earlier under Interpreter and Self-Represented Litigant Adjustments, adjustments were made to accommodate above average interpreter usage and the presence of more complex attorney configurations. Finally, an additional .1 FTE was added to each circuit/district judicial the chief judge adjustment. Exhibit 14 provides an example of the calculation of judicial need for the 5th Judicial Circuit.

Exhibit 14: Calculation of Judicial Need, 5th Judicial Circuit

			Case Weights		Workload	
	Filings	•	(minutes)	=	(minutes)	<del></del>
Capital Murder	2	•	857	=	1,734	
Non-Capital Felonies and Related Matters	3,196	*	45	=	143,820	
Misdemeanor	952	٠	10	*	9,520	
Other Criminally Related Matters	315	•	26	=	8,190	<del>_</del>
Administrative Law	8	•	49	=	392	
Contested Divorce	155	٠	95	=	14,725	
Uncontested Divorce	370	•	12	=	4,440	
Domestic and Family - Level 1	74	•	103	=	7,622	
Domestic and Family - Level 2	125	•	64	=	8,000	_
General Civil - Level 1	14	•	544	-	7,616	
General Civil - Level 2	296	•	64	•	18,944	
General Civil - Level 3	157	*	51	=	8,007	_
Probates/Wills and Trusts - Level 1	3	*	289	=	867	
Probates/Wills and Trusts - Level 2	42	•	25	=	1,050	
Protective Orders	19	•	45	=	855	
Miscellaneous	3,137	*	2	=	6,274	_
	8,865				242,056	
				+	71,280	Judge Year Value
					3.4	<del></del>
				+	,1	_ Chief Judge Adjustme
					3.5	_

Exhibit 14 shows that the 5th Judicial Circuit has a total need of 3.5 FTE circuit court judges. As is the case here, weighted caseload calculations typically result in estimates of judicial need that contain fractional judgeships. In some instances when implied need exceeds the number of sitting judges, the current complement of judges in a given circuit or district can organize to handle the additional workload, perhaps with the periodic assistance of a retired or substitute judge. However, at some point, the additional workload crosses a threshold that means the circuit/district needs another full-time judicial position to effectively resolve the cases entering the court. The main issue is to identify the threshold. In other words, develop a method to guide the decision of when to round up or down to a whole judicial position and thereby determine the appropriate number of authorized judicial positions in each circuit and district.

After much discussion, JNAC adopted a rounding convention that is based upon the workload per judge and puts judges in localities of all sizes on equal footing. It Workload per judge is calculated by dividing the total judge need in each circuit/district by the number of funded judicial positions. According to the rounding convention, when workload per judge is greater than or equal to 1.15 FTE, there is a need for one or more additional judicial positions: where workload per judge falls below .9 FTE, there is a need for fewer positions. 12 For example, in the 5th Judicial Circuit there are currently 3 authorized and funded FTE circuit court judges. Dividing the Total Need by the current number of Funded Judges (3.5 FTE ÷ 3

FTE) results in a Current Workload per Judge of 1.17 FTE. Since workload per judge exceeds the upper threshold of 1.15 FTE, a judicial position is added to bring workload per judge below 1.15. Rounding judicial need to 4 FTE judges in this manner results in a Final Workload per Judge of .87 FTE (3.5 FTE ÷ 4 FTE). Exhibit 15 presents circuit court judge need for each judicial circuit, after the rounding convention has been applied. Overall, the model suggests a need for 170 FTE circuit court judges. Exhibit 16 and 17 display overall judge need for general district courts (130 FTE) and juvenile and domestic relations district courts (135 FTE), respectively.

The rounding convention using workload per judge was designed to provide empirical guidance as to which courts are over- or underresourced. It also provides a means to rank jurisdictions regarding their relative need. The higher the workload per judge, the greater the need for additional resources (e.g., a court with a workload per judge of 1.36 would have a greater need for an additional judge than a court with a workload per judge of 1.18). The upper and lower thresholds are guidelines for an initial identification of courts that may need additional (or fewer) resources.

Courts that are near the threshold (e.g., courts with a workload per judge between 1.10 and 1.20) may benefit from a secondary analysis that examines additional contextual factors affecting the need for judges. For example, during the site visits several jurisdictions slightly above the workload per judge threshold of 1.15 indicated that they currently have sufficient resources to

<sup>11</sup> It is our understanding that the current rounding convention used by the General Assembly when funding judgeships rounds fractional need up when the decimal is greater than .8. Under this convention, a 2-judge court with a need of 2.7 FTE judges would be rounded down to 2.0 FTE judges, or a workload per judge of 1.35 FTE. In contrast, a court with a need of 15.7 would be rounded down to 15 FTE judges, or a more manageable workload per judge of 1.05 FTE. The existing convention has the

potential to place an excess burden on judges in smaller courts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> A position should not be subtracted, however, when this would result in a per-judge workload greater than 1.15 FTE. For this reason, final workload per judge may be lower than .9 FTE in some counties.

efficiently and effectively handle their workload, even though the rounding rule suggests the need for an additional judgeship. On the other hand, during the site visits several jurisdictions slightly below the threshold pointed out unique factors that may impact their workload and may not be accounted for in the model. For example, complex equitable distribution hearings. complex custody hearings with multiple experts and attorneys, proximity to mental health facilities, and extra travel demands in multicounty jurisdictions may increase judicial workload. For courts falling slightly below the threshold (e.g., workload per judge of 1.14). these extra factors should be considered when determining whether additional resources are needed.

The rounding convention can be summarized as:

Rule 1: If workload per judge >= 1.15, add judges until workload per judge < 1.15

Rule 2: If workload per judge < 0.90, subtract a judge ONLY if resulting workload per judge < 1.15

An example of the application of the rounding convention is provided below for four sample jurisdictions.

- Smallville currently has 3 FTE Authorized
  Judgeships and 2 Funded Judges and an
  implied Total Need of 2.4 FTE judges.
  Dividing the total need by the number of
  funded judges results in a Current
  Workload per Judge of 1.20. Since the
  workload per judge exceeds 1.15 (see Rule
  1) the Judge Need (FTE) Rounded is
  rounded up to 3 FTE judges.
- Metropolis has a Current Workload per Judge of 1.04; a value falling within the lower (.9) and upper rounding thresholds (1.15). As such, the current Authorized and Funded Judgeships (20) is sufficient.
- Central currently has 5 Authorized and Funded Judgeships and a Total Need of 4.1 FTE and a Current Workload per Judge of .82. Since the workload per judge falls below the .9 threshold (see Rule 2), the total need is rounded down to 4 judges. The resultant Final Workload per Judge becomes 1.03.
- Finally, Argo has a Total Need of 3.5 FTE and a Current Workload per Judge of .88. The workload per judge is below the .9 threshold. However, reducing the number of judges from 4 to 3 results in a workload per judge of 1.17 (3.5 ÷ 3), which exceeds the upper threshold of 1.15. Thus, the Judge Need (FTE) Rounded remains at 4 judges (see Rule 2)

Jurisdiction	Authorized Judgeships (FTE)	Funded Judges (FTE)	Total Need (	Current Workload per Judge	Judge Need (FTE) rounded 1.15/.9	Final Workload per Judge
Smallville	3	2	2.4	1.20	. 3	.80
Metropolis	20	20	20.8	1.04	20	1.04
Central	5	5	4.1	.82	4	1.03
Ango	4	4	3.5	.88	4	.88

Exhibit 15: Circuit Court Implied Need, using 1.15/.9 rounding rule

	Authorized	Funded	<u></u>	Current	Judge Need	Final
	Judgeships	Judges	Total Need	Workload	(FTE) rounded	Workload
Circult		(FTE)	(FTE)	per Judge	1,15/.9	per Judge
1	5	4	5.05	1.26	· 5	1.01
2	9	9	7.43.	.83	. 8	.93
3	4	4	3.69	.92	4	.92
4	8	8	7.95	.99	8	.99
5	3	3	3,50	1.17	1 4	.87
6	3	2	2.45	1.23	3	.82
7	6	5	4.80	.96	5	.96
8	3 ·	3	3.01	1.00	3	1.00
9	4	4	4.32	1.08	4	1.08
10	4	4	4,12	1.03	4	1.03
11	3	3	2.76	.92	3	.92
12	6	6	<u>6.15</u>	1.03	6	1.03
13	8	7	6.50	.93	7	.93
14	5	5	4.82	.96	5	.96
15	11	11	11.93	1.08	11	1.08
16	6	5	5,89	1.18	6	.98
17	3	3	3.74	1.25	4	.93
18	4	3	2.35	.78	3	.78
19	15	15	14.12	.94	15	.94
20	5	4	4.60	1.15	5	.92
21	2	3	2.75	.92	3	.92
22	5	4	4.54	1.14	4	1.14
23	5	5	5.38	1,08	5	1.08
24	5	5	5.78	1.16	6	.96
25	5	5	5.99	1.20	6	1.00
26	8	B	8.64	1.08	8	1.08
27	7	6	6.79	1.13	6	1.13
28	4	3	3.47	1.16	4	.87
29	5	5	.5:58	1.12	5	1.12
30	4	4	4.03	1.01	4	1.01
31	6	6	5.48	.91	. 6	.91
	171	162	167.59	1.03	170	.99

Exhibit 16: General District Court Implied Need, using 1.15/.9 rounding rule

	Authorized	Funded	,	Current	Judge Need	Final
	Judgeships	Judges	Total Need	Workload	(FTE) rounded	Workload
District	·	(FTE)	(FTE)	per Judge	1.15/.9	per Judge
1	4	4	4.16	1.04	4	1.04
2	7	7	6.43	.92	7	.92
3	2	3	1.88	.63	2	.94
4	6	5	5.75	1.15	6	.96
5	2	2	2.62	1.31	3	.87
6	4	4	5.01	1.25	5	1.00
7	4	4	3.44	.86	4	.86
8	3	3	2.80	.93	3 '	.93
9	3	3	3.13	1.04	3	1.04
10	3	3	2.52	.84	3	.84
11	3	3	2.48	.83	3	.83
12	5	5	5.53	1.11	5	1.11
13	6	6	6.05	1.01	6	1.01
14	5	5	,4:80	.96	5	.96
15	8	7	-8.06	1.15	8	1.01
16	4	4	4.01	1.00	4	1.00
17	3	3	2.54	.85	3	.85
18	2	2	1.61	.80	, 2	.80
19	11	10	12.07	1.21	11	1.10
20	4	4	3.44	.86	4	.86
21	1	1	1,25	1.25	2	.63
22	2	2	2.22	1.11	2	1.11
23	4	4	3.79	.95	4	.95
24	3	3	3.05	1.02	3	1.02
25	3	3	3.45	1.15	4	.85
26	5	5	5.33	1,07	5	1.07
27	5	4	5.05	1,26	5	1.01
28	2	2	2,46	1.23	3	.82
29	2	2	1.70	.85	2	.85
30	2	2	1.42	.71	2	.71
31	5	5	5.05	1.01	5	1.01
32	1	1	1.30	1.30	2	.65
	124	121	124.42	1.03	130	.96

#### VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

The weighted caseload model adopted by the Judicial Needs Assessment Committee provides an empirically grounded basis for analyzing judicial workload in each of Virginia's trial courts. The following recommendations will help to ensure the integrity and utility of the judicial workload model over time.

#### Recommendation 1

The revised weighted caseload model clearly illustrates the changing character of judicial workload in Virginia. When applied, the new case weights adopted by the Judicial Needs Assessment Committee provide an accurate means to determine the number of judges needed in each circuit and district court. In some jurisdictions, the current number of judges is insufficient to effectively resolve the cases coming before the court. The Virginia General Assembly should consider authorizing new judgeships in the circuit courts, general district courts, and juvenile and domestic relations district courts where the weighted caseload model shows a need for additional judges.

## Recommendation 2

The calculations of judge need in this report are based upon a three-year average of case filing data. NCSC recommends that circuit court. general district court, and juvenile and domestic relations district court judge need be recalculated on an annual basis using the same methodology set forth in this report and updated with year-end case filing data. The application of the workload formula to the most recent filings will reveal the impact of any changes in caseloads or caseload composition on judicial workload and judge need. OES should continue to make improvements in data quality and consistency in automated case management systems to better track and record use of interpreters and alternative attorney configurations in all cases.

#### Recommendation 3

The availability of support personnel, especially law clerks/staff attorneys and court clerks, has a profound impact on judges' ability to perform their work efficiently and effectively. Judges across the state stressed the importance of strong support staff and dedicated court clerks, and stated that if they had access to a law clerk or a judicial secretary to assist with tasks such as preparing case summaries, taking notes during hearings, and assisting with drafting opinions and orders that would enable judges to make more timely decisions, and therefore save judges time and increase the court's efficiency. NCSC recommends that workload assessments be conducted or updated for law clerks/staff attorneys, judicial assistants, circuit court deputy clerks, and district clerks of court and deputy clerks. The OES currently maintains and routinely updates a weighted caseload staffing model and workload assessment for district court clerks, while staffing and development of staffing models for law clerks/staff attorneys, judicial assistants and circuit court deputy clerks are the responsibility of localities and/or the Virginia Compensation Board. The development of or an update to existing staffing models for these groups would provide the information needed to evaluate the adequacy of staffing levels to ensure the quality processing of cases.

#### Recommendation 4

Over time, the integrity of a weighted caseload model may be affected by multiple influences, such as changes in legislation, case law, legal practice, and technology. Regular updates are necessary to ensure that a weighted caseload model remains an accurate representation of judicial workload. A systematic review of the model should be conducted every five years.

Exhibit 17: Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Implied Need, using 1.15/.9 rounding rule

	Authorized	Funded		Current		Final
	Judgeships	Judges	Total Nee	d Workload	Judge Need	Workload
District	(FTE)	(FTE)	(FTE)	per Judge	(FTE)	per Judge
1	4	3	3.53		4	.88.
2	7	6	6.20	1.03	6	1,03
3	3	3	2,51	.87	3	.87
4	5	<b>S</b>	4.75	.95	5	.95
5	2	2	2.28	1.14	2	1.14
6	2	2	2,39	1.20	3	.80
7	4	4	3.54	j .88.	4	.88.
8	3	3	2.93	.98	3 '	.98
9	4	3	3.82	1.27	4	. <del>9</del> 5
10	4	3	3,11	1.04	3	1.04
11	3	2	2.44	1.22	3	.81
12	6	6	5.77	j .95	6	.96
13	4	4	4.69	1.17	5	.94
14	5	5	5.15	1.03	5	1.03
15	10	9	9.62	1.07	9	1.07
16	6	5	6.14	1,23	6	1,02
17	2	2	1.60	.80	2	.80
18	2	2	1.83	.91	2	.91
19	7	7	8.82	1.26	8	1.10
20	3	3	3.33	: 1.11	3	1.11
21	2	2	2.20	1.10	2	1.10
22	4	4	3.62	.91	4	.91
23	5	5	4.78	.96	5	.96
24	6	_ 5	5.86	1.17	6	.98
25	5	4	4.62	1.16	5	.92
26	7	6	7.11	1.19	7	1.02
27	5	5	4.83	.97	5	.97
28	3 _	3	2.67	.89	3	.89
29	3	3	3.27	1,09	3	1.09
30	2	2	2.30	1.15	3	.77
31	5	5	5.39	1.08	5	1.08
32	1	1	.84	.84	1	.84
	134	124	132.06	1.06	135	.98

## **APPENDICES**

## Appendix A: Case Type Definitions

#### Circuit Court Case Type Categories

## 1. Capital Murder

## 2. Felony (Non-Capital) and Related Matters

In addition to non-capital felonies, this category includes the following related matters:

- Probation violations
- Revocation actions
- Civil commitment of sexually violent predators
- NGRI reviews
- Writs of habeas corpus
- Felony violations of protective orders

#### 3. Misdemeanor

Includes all misdemeanor offenses, including:

- Misdemeanor appeals from district court
- Misdemeanor violations of protective orders
- Misdemeanor animal violations
- Misdemeanor zoning violations

## 4. Other Criminally Related Matters

Includes the following matters:

- Traffic infractions
- Animal violations (civil)
- Bond appeals
- Contempt

#### S. Administrative Law

Includes the following matters:

- Appeals from local governments, boards, agencies and commissions
- Writs of certiorari, mandamus, prohibition and quo warranto

#### 6. Contested Divorce

Includes divorce cases where any one or more of the following matters was at any time disputed or contested: grounds of divorce, spousal support and maintenance, child custody and/or visitation, child support, property distribution, or debt allocation. Includes all matters arising out of a contested divorce, such as:

- Pendente lite hearings
- Custody and visitation
- Support
- Equitable distribution
- Reinstatements

#### 7. Uncontested Divorce

Includes divorce cases where the case has been filed on no-fault grounds pursuant to Va. Code § 20-91(9) and there are no issues in controversy concerning spousal support and maintenance, child custody and/or visitation, child support, property distribution, or debt allocation.

# 8. Other Domestic and Family - Level 1 (More Complex)

Includes annulments and the following juvenile civil appeals:

- Abuse and neglect
- Custody and visitation
- Juvenile support
- Paternity
- Permanency planning
- Termination of parental rights

# 9. Other Domestic and Family - Level 2 (Less Complex)

#### Includes the following matters:

- Adoption
- Adult protection
- Child abuse and neglect unfounded (§ 63.2-1514 D)
- Civil contempt
- Transfer of finalized divorce
- Appointment of guardian/committee/fiduciary
- Separate maintenance

## Includes the following juvenile civil appeals:

- Emancipation
- Involuntary commitment
- Judicial bypass (abortion)
- Status petitions
- Relief of custody
- · Civil and criminal support
- Show cause

## 10. General Civil - Level 1 (More Complex)

## Includes the following matters:

- Annexation
- Asbestos litigation
- Establishment of boundaries
- Medical malpractice
- Product liability
- Wrongful death

# 11. General Civil - Level 2 (Intermediate Complexity)

## Includes the following matters:

- Condemnation
- Contract actions
- Correction of erroneous state/local taxes
- Declaratory judgments

- General tort liability
- Injunctions
- Intentional torts
- Mechanic's liens
- Motor vehicle cases
- Partition suits
- Specific performance
- Termination of mineral rights
- Actions to quiet title

#### 12. General Civil - Level 3 (Less Complex)

#### Includes the following matters:

- Attachments
- Confessed judgments
- Compromise settlements
- Delinquent taxes
- Suits in detinue
- Ejectments
- Enforcement of vendor's liens
- Actions to encumber/sell real estate
- Escheatments
- Freedom of Information Act cases
- Complaints to enforce judgment liens
- Landlord/tenant cases
- Civil appeals from General District Court

# 13. Probate/Wills and Trusts - Level 1 (More Complex)

## Includes the following matters:

- Aid and guidance
- Construing wills

# 14. Probate/Wills and Trusts - Level 2 (Less Complex)

#### Includes the following matters:

- Appointment of guardian/standby guardian/conservator
- Actions to impress/declare a trust
- · Reformation of trusts

#### 15. Protective Order

## 16. Miscellaneous (Civil)

#### Includes the following matters:

- Appointment of church trustee
- Appointment of conservator of the peace
- Appointment of marriage celebrant
- Approval of right to be eligible to vote
- Bond forfeitures
- Concealed handgun permits
- Declarations of death
- Expungements
- Forfeiture of U.S. currency
- Garnishments
- Adult involuntary commitments
- Interdictions
- Judicial review of DMV revocation/suspension
- Name changes
- Referendum elections
- Reinstatement/restoration of driving privileges
- Petition by sex offender to enter school property

## General District Court Case Type Categories

## 1. Traffic Infraction/Civil Violation

## Includes the following matters:

- Traffic infractions
- Motor carrier violations
- Overweight citations
- Seatbelt violations
- Civil violations of local ordinances (e.g., animal and tobacco violations)

#### 2. Misdemeanor

#### Includes the following matters:

- Misdemeanors
- Misdemeanor violations of protective orders
- Misdemeanor animal violations
- Misdemeanor zoning violations

#### Also includes related matters such as:

- Bond forfeitures
- Show causes
- Capiases
- Petitions for restricted operator's licenses for failure to pay fines and costs

## 3. Felony

## Includes the following matters:

- Felonies
- Felony violations of protective orders

#### Also includes related matters such as:

- Bond forfeitures
- Show causes
- Capiases

#### 4. Garnishment and Interrogatories

## 5. Landlord/Tenant

#### Includes the following matters:

- Tenant's assertions
- Unlawful detainers

#### 6. General Civil

#### Includes the following matters:

- Warrants in debt
- Motions for judgment
- Mechanic's liens
- Distress actions
- Suits in detinue
- Petitions to restore right to bear arms
- Jail fee license suspensions

#### 7. Protective Order

## 8. Involuntary Commitment

# Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Case Type Categories

## 1. Child Dependency

#### Includes the following matters:

- Abuse and neglect
- Child at risk for abuse/neglect
- Request for child protective order
- Prenatal substance abuse
- Initial foster care review
- · Foster care review
- Entrustment agreement
- Permanency planning
- Relief of custody
- Termination of parental rights

# 2. Child in Need of Services/Supervision (CHINS)

## Includes the following matters:

- Child in need of services
- Child in need of supervision (truancy/runaway)
- CHINS show cause

## 3. Custody and Visitation

## Includes the following matters:

- Custody/visitation
- Paternity
- Consent to adopt
- · Registration of foreign order for custody
- Custody/visitation show cause

#### 4. Juvenile Miscellaneous

## Includes the following matters:

- Emancipation
- Judicial bypass (abortion)
- Status offense (e.g., possession of tobacco, curfew violation)
- Tobacco offense (Clean Air Act)
- Work permits
- · Permission to treat a juvenile

## 5. Delinquency

## Includes the following matters:

- Delinquency felony
- Delinquency misdemeanor (including reckless driving and DUI)
- Capias in a delinquency case
- Show cause in a delinquency case
- Juvenile delinquency violation of protective order

#### 6. Traffic

## Includes the following matters:

- Juvenile traffic infractions
- RDL issued to juvenile
- RDL issued to adult for failure to pay fines and costs

## 7. Adult Criminal

Includes the following matters:

- Adult felonics
- Adult misdemeanors
- Adult criminal violations of protective orders

Includes the following matters related to adult criminal cases:

- Bond hearings
- Bond forfeitures
- Capiases
- Probation violations
- Show causes

## 8. Protective Orders

Includes protective orders where the respondent is an adult or juvenile in any family abuse or Title 19.2 protective order case.

## 9. Support

Includes the following matters:

- Civil support
- Criminal support
- Juvenile support/juvenile respondent
- Registration of foreign order for support
- Capias (support)
- Restricted driver's license (support only)
- Support show cause

## Appendix B: Non-Case-Related Activities

#### 1. Non-Case-Related Administration

Includes all non-case-related administrative work such as:

- Staff meetings
- Judges' meetings
- Personnel matters
- · Staff supervision and mentoring
- Court management

#### 2. General Legal Research

Includes all reading and research that is *not* related to a particular case before the court. Examples include:

- Reading journals
- Reading professional newsletters
- Reviewing appellate court decisions

#### 3. Judicial Education and Training

Includes all educational and training activities such as:

- Judicial education
- Conferences

Includes travel related to judicial education and training.

## 4. Committee Meetings, Other Meetings, and Related Work

Includes <u>all work related to and preparation for</u> meetings of state and local committees, boards, and task forces, such as:

- Community criminal justice board meetings
- · Benchbook committee meetings
- Meetings of committees of the Judicial Conference of Virginia

Includes travel related to meetings.

## 5. Community Activities and Public Outreach

Includes all public outreach and community service that is performed in your official capacity as a judge. This category does not include work for which you are compensated through an outside source, such as teaching law school courses, or personal community service work that is not performed in your official capacity as a judge. Examples include:

- Speaking at schools about legal careers
- Judging moot court competitions

Includes travel related to community activities and public outreach.

6. DC-40/DC-44 Forms (\*Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court only)

Includes all time spent reviewing and signing DC-40 and DC-44 reimbursement voucher forms, regardless of the underlying case type.

#### 7. Work-Related Travel

Work-Related Travel includes only reimbursable travel between courts during the business day. Does not include commuting time or other non-reimbursable travel. Record reimbursable travel related to judicial education and training, committee meetings, or community activities and public outreach in the applicable category.

## 8. Lunch and Breaks

Includes all routine breaks during the working day.

#### 9. NCSC Time Study

Includes all time spent filling out time study forms and entering time study data using the Web-based form.

Appendix C: Population Change, 2000-2016

Juniselection	Greuft	2000	2002	2010	2016	Change	
Chesapeake city	1	200,224	215,128	222,986	237,940	19%	
Accomack County	7	38,215	35,835	33,202	32,947	. 14%	
Northampton County	~	13,025	12,771	12,388	12,139	ķ	
Wrginia Beach city	7	426,918	436,210	439,172	452,602	<b>8</b> %	
Portsmouth city	*	100,337	98,069	38,696	95,252	- 5%	
Norfolk city	•	234,986	239,650	243,135	245,115	4%.	
Franklin city	2	8,269	8,278	8,619	90€'8	*	
Is it of Wight County	ıs	29,849	32,566	35,288	36'286	23%	
Southampton County	S	17,493	17,510	18,552	18,057	×	
Suffolk city	2	64,216	77,957	84,906	89,273	39%	
Brunswick County	9	18,387	17,981	17,404	16,243	- 12%	
Emporta city	9	5,655	5,657	5,937	5,305	, %	
Greenswille County	40	11,566	12,063	12,234	11,706	×	
Hopewell city	9	22,277	22,131	22,655	22,735	2%	
Prince George County	ف	33,100	34,798	35,716	37,845	14%	
Surry County	9	6,833	6,865	7,064	6,544	. 4%	
Sussex County	9	12,456	11,933	12,060	11,504	. 5%	
Newport News city	7	180,236	183,651	180,712	181,825	1%	
Hampton city	80	146,054	141,314	137,381	135,410	×	
Charles City County	6	6,930	7,060	7,271	170,7	2%	
Gloucester County	<b>o</b>	34,793	36,011	38,950	37,214	K	
Jemes City County	<b>c</b> n	48,536	<b>58,428</b>	67,237	74,404	<b>23%</b>	
King and Queen County	<b>\$</b>	6,620	6,792	6,959	7,159	88 8	
King William County	<b>¢</b> n	13,238	14,278	16,003	16,334	23%	
Mathews County	œ	9,142	8,962	8,971	8,782	X	
Middlesex County	æ	9,932	10,526	10,977	10,778	Ķ	
New Kent County	<b>G</b> P	13,537	15,953	18,556	21,147	<b>26%</b>	
Poquosoa city	•	11,582	11,879	12,141	12,017	¥	
Willemsburg city	0	12,012	12,400	14,170	15,214	27%	
York County	6	57,119	63,076	65,467	67,976	19%	
Apportation County -	2	13,692	13,981	15,019	15,475	13%	
<b>Buckingham County</b>	2	15,634	16,401	17,120	17,048	¥,	
Charlotte County	2	12,476	12,631	12,568	12,129	***	
Cumberland County	2	8,987	9,465	10,056	9,652	ž	
Halifax County	2	37,299	36,340	36,192	34,992	, <b>6%</b>	
Lunenburg County	2	13,093	13,030	12,922	12,273	. 6%	
Mecklenburg County	2	32,384	32,554	32,671	30,892	, 55%	
Prince Edward County	01	19,708	21.341	23.379	72 147	7	

Jurisdiction	Circuit	2000	2002	2010	2016	Change
Amelia County .	#	11,446	11,943	12,729	12,913	13%
Dinwiddle County	#	24,674	26,149	27,995	28,144	14%
Nottoway County	#	15,773	15,795	15,837	15,595	. 1%
Petersburg city	==	33,561	31,930	32,527	31,882	. 5X
Powhaten County	11	22,585	26,372	28,071	28,443	<b>36%</b>
Chesterfield County	ជ	261,047	289,998	317,102	600'BEE	30%
Colonial Heights city	12	16,905	17,348	17,381	17,772	5%
Richmond city	13	196,782	197,465	204,389	229,170	13%
Henrico County	14	264,385	286,441	307,435	326,501	23%
Caroline County	12	22,136	25,475	28,631	30,178	36%
Essex.County	<b>S</b> 1	9,984	10,445	11,167	11,123	11%
Fredericksbung city	<del>1</del> 7	19,461	21,660	24,445	28,297	45X
Hanover County	51	86,972	96,451	99,948	104,392	20%
King George County	15	16,916	20,476	23,575	25,984	X7S
Lancaster County	15	11,549	11,533	11,380	10,972	. SX
Northumberland County	2	12,229	12,501	12,326	12,222	*
Richmond County	<b>S</b> 1	£08'\$	9,213	9,248	6,774	×
Spotsylvania County	<b>1</b>	91,387	115,017	122,853	132,010	44X
Stafford County	t,	93,625	117,611	129,745	144,361	<b>34%</b>
Westmoreland County	15	16,644	16,757	17,463	17,591	<b>6</b> %
Alberrarie County	16	83,532	91,676	99,150	106,878	28%
Charlottes viile city	91	41,351	40,597	43,547	46,912	13%
Cui peper County	16	34,442	41,894	46,850	50,083	45%
Ruvanna County	91	20,191	24,318	25,733	26,271	30%
Goochland County	91	16,935	19,349	21,745	22,668	34%
Greene County	91	15,454	17,155	18,461	19,371	25%
Louisa County	91	25,819	29,835	33,262	35,236	36%
Madison County	91	12,535	13,106	13,299	13,078	*
Orange County	16	25,981	19,990	33,535	35,533	37%
Arilington County	17	189,198	187,760	209,457	230,050	77%
Falls Charch city	17	10,441	10,840	12,520	14,014	34%
Alexandria city	18	129,225	128,181	140,912	155,810	21%
<b>Feirfex</b> city	19	21,600	20,860	22,671	24,164	12%
Fairfax County	19	975,476	1,019,490	1,086,743	1,138,652	17%
Fauquier County	2	55,470	62,586	65,383	690'69	X5X
Loudoun County	20	173,907	284,909	315,134	385,945	122%
Manual Land of the Control of	ş	7000	-			

Appendix D: Law Clerks by Circuit

Turnet of Faces	90% civil 10% criminal	All cases	All cases	Primarily civil and some criminal motions	NA AN	Givil and criminal	Civil and criminal	W	NA NA	¥	¥	CIMI	Civil and criminal	All cases	Civil and criminal	MA	Al cases	Civil and criminal	Civil, domestic, and criminal	iock Chil	¥	מאַו	Civil and some criminal	All cases	n Al cases, except domestic	Primarily non-domestic civil cases. Occasionally criminal and domestic	¥	NA	Ackerson Civil and criminal	risdictions) Amost exclusively civil lidgation	Al Cases
in the state of th	Chesapenke	Virginia Beach (only)	Portsmouth	Norfelk	NA	Entire circuit	Newport News	NA	NA NA	ş	\$	Chesterfield and Colonial Heights	Richmond	Henrico	Hanover & Spotsylvania	NA .	Arlington	Accandria	Feirfax	Loudown, Fauguler, and Rappahannock	¥N.	Danville (only)	Entire circuit	Lynchburg	Staunton, Waynesboro, and Augusta	Rockingham (only)	**	NA	Tazeweil, Russell, Suchanan, and Ofickerson	Wise (occasionally assist other jurisdictions)	Prince William
No. of	3	m	-	4	0	-	~	0	0	0	•	9	4	m	7	0	м	m	14	4.3	0	-1	m	1	7	1	•	۰	4	-	Œ
į.	1	. 7	m	4	S	ø	4	60	Ø,	9	#	12	13	14	21	16	11	18	19	20	22	72	23	24	22	26	77	28	62	8	H

Appendix E: Percentage of Alternative Attorney Configurations by Nomber of Attorneys, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Zero attorneys

		of Services/	Custody and				Adult	Protective		
	Dependency	Supervision	Visitation	Juverile Misc Delinquency	Delinquency	Traffic	Criminal	Orders	Support	Total
	<b>%</b>	10%	20%	%	9%	65%	10%	55%	30%	20%
	*	×	<b>\$0</b> %	<b>4</b> 0%	10%	85%	32%	80%	20%	35%
	<b>%</b> 0	ž	15%	<b>829</b>	8	100%	3%	85%	10%	15%
	360	65%	45%	40%	10%	60%	10%	70%	10%	20%
	*6	960	%0	<b>%</b> 0	<b>%</b> 0	%0	360	<b>%</b> 0	<b>%</b> 0	86
	10%	25%	<b>40%</b>	50%	8	<b>25%</b>	15%	45%	15%	20%
	20%	10%	55%	45%	10%	85%	25%	<b>\$08</b>	20%	35%
	2%	15%	50%	3606	20%	95%	35%	85%	25%	35%
	8	<b>%</b> 0	30%	25%	<b>%</b> 0	75%	10%	<b>%09</b>	20%	20%
	28	30%	\$0 <b>%</b>	100%	20%	85%	<b>%05</b>	75%	20%	35%
	<b>\$</b> 0\$	75%	80%	2035	30%	65%	45%	306 %	35%	30%
	*60	*6	40%	15%	15%	85%	50%	65%	30%	40%
	<b>%</b> 0	10%	35%	40%	10%	75%	30%	<b>%</b> 06	20%	25%
	20%	45%	40%	20%	25%	95%	45%	85%	40%	45%
	10%	25%	40%	25%	25%	<b>308</b>	30%	70%	30%	35%
	5%	15%	45%	30%	15%	70%	25%	70%	25%	30%
	15%	20%	35%	75%	25%	75%	20%	<b>60%</b>	10%	25%
	10%	10%	20%	<b>%</b> 0	10%	70%	15%	959	20%	25%
	*	<b>%</b>	45%	¥09	10%	<b>80%</b>	25%	2888	25%	35%
	10%	26	60%	0%	980	10%	9%0	909	30%	20%
	%0	20%	<b>829</b>	<b>%</b> 0	95£	<b>%06</b>	25%	85%	25%	45%
	<b>%</b>	25%	¥09	35%	25%	20%	25%	75%	5%	30%
	% %	30%	25%	25%	20%	65%	20%	70%	45%	45%
	10%	30%	40%	9%0	40%	85%	50%	75%	30%	45%
l	2%	15%	20%	80%	25%	25%	20%	70%	35%	35%
	<b>2%</b>	2%	<b>20%</b>	30%	30%	<b>80%</b>	35%	<b>%09</b>	25%	35%
	10%	25%	45%	70% %O	35%	85%	45%	75%	40%	45%
	2%	20%	45%	20%	25%	55%	40%	75%	10%	35%
	5%	40%	45%	<b>%09</b>	30%	80%	<b>70%</b>	<b>65%</b>	10%	30%
	35%	<b>909</b>	20%	50%	30%	95%	35%	70%	20%	35%
	10%	<b>50%</b>	45%	40%	20%	75%	30%	75%	25%	35%
	3	ž	700	2	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	3	*****	}		

Appendix E: Percentage of Alternative Attorney Configurations by Number of Attorneys, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court, continued

Two attorneys

Child in Need	2					Adide	Drotoctive		
Naitation	.	<b>Arvenile M</b>		Delinquency	Traffic	Criminal	Orders	Support	Total
%0 %S		80		%	30%	%0	<b>2%</b>	%0	Š
		Š		20%	8	<b>%0</b> 2	8	86	ž
%0 %0 %0		Š		45%	8	35%	Š	5%	15%
20	1	80		20%	5%	35%	8	15%	15%
*0		<b>%</b> 6		%0	%	<b>%</b> 0	<b>%</b> 0	%0	<b>%</b> 0
10%		8		15%	<b>%</b> 5	10%	2%	15%	10%
ž		8		5%	8	ž	*	285	Š
9%		8		<b>9</b> 8	980	260	960	0%	8
10%		<b>%</b>		10%	360	10%	10%	2%	2%
8		£		ž	% %	8	ຮ	š	ž
<b>%</b>		Š		25%	ž	10%	9 <b>%</b>	8	<b>X</b>
2%		25%		%0	<b>%</b>	<b>9</b> %	5%	<b>%</b> 0	*
<b>%</b> 0		20%		%	%0	960	<b>%</b> 0	2%	8
*6		X,		8	<b>%</b>	*6	8	*6	8
<b>%</b>		š		8	Š	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	жo	Š
š	- 1	š	1	8	2%	8	š	ğ	š
10%		š		š	<b>2</b> %	15%	5%	š	2% 2%
8		ž		15%	Š	25%	5%	Š	10%
% %		X S		8	*6	8	10%	<b>%</b>	Š
%0		<b>%</b>		25%	15%	25%	15%	<b>%</b> 0	15%
<b>%</b> 0		<b>%</b> 0		%0	<b>%</b>	%	%0	<b>%</b> 0	8
28		ğ		20%	ž	15%	Š	8	% %
Š		20 <b>%</b>		ž	š	Š	10 <b>X</b>	š	ž
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2%		<b>%</b> 6		ž	2%	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b> 0	*0	%
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Š		8		% 0	86	*6	*	<b>2</b> %	Š
10%		35%		%0	5%	<b>%</b> 0	9%	20%	5%
960		<b>%</b> 0		<b>%</b> 0	2%5	25%	2%	2%	2%
15%		Š		<b>%</b> 0	8	*	10%	35%	ž
<b>%</b>		ž		*o	5%	5%	<b>3</b> %	5% 2	Š
960		8		<b>%</b> 0	<b>6%</b>	%0 %0	<b>%</b>	10%	Š

Appendix E: Percentage of Alternative Attorney Configurations by Number of Attorneys, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court, continued

3 or more attorneys

	<u>-</u>	_												   																		
	Tota	25	8	5	8	8	Š	8	5	55	8	6	8	55	8	20	59	101	8	\$	8	8	ŝ	8	8	8	8	2%	59	8	50	6
	Support	5%	*	8	960	<b>%</b> 0	80	<b>%</b>	9%	25	8	8	<b>%</b> 0	%0	*6	Š	<b>%</b>	2%	Š	% o	80	%	8	<b>%</b> 0	%0	%0	%0	8	260	<b>%</b> 0	%0	80
<b>Protective</b>	Orders	š	ž	ž	9%	%	10%	<b>%</b>	960	%0	8	%	7%	<b>%</b> 0	<b>%</b>	86	9%	2%	80	8	960	360	ķ	8	820	2%	8	8	9%	<b>%</b> 0	8	Š
Adult	Criminal	10%	Š	<b>%</b>	980	%0	*	8	9%	%0	<b>%</b>	8	%0	86	8	Š	<b>6%</b>	5%	8	š	0%	86	Š	8	9% 0	<b>%</b> 0	<b>%</b>	80	9%	2%	%	<b>%</b>
	Traffic	×	8	%	9%	80	*	%0	%0	%	<b>%</b>	8	260	<b>%</b> 0	86	<b>%</b>	9%0	<b>%</b> 0	<b>%</b>	*	9%0	%0	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	9%	<b>%</b> 0	86	% %	2%0	<b>%</b> 0	80	<b>%</b> 0
	Definquency	ş	Š	8	5%	%0	20%	š	<b>%</b>	2%	ž	8	5%	<b>%</b> 0	%	8	9%	2%	% %	ሄ	%0 %0	<b>%</b> 0	Š	8	9%	*6	<b>%</b>	%	9%	<b>%</b> 0	2%	288
	Juvenile Misc Delinquency	<b>40%</b>	86	Š	5%	<b>%</b> 0	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>9</b> %	%o	<b>%</b>	%	20%	<b>%</b> 0	8	25%	9%0	<b>%</b> 0	8	<b>18</b>	260	<b>%</b> 0	<b>%</b> 0	*6	9%	<b>%</b> 0	%	%	960	3%0	<b>%</b>	8
Custody and	Wistation	10%	Š	ž	9%	<b>%</b> 0	8	8	260	285	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	9%0	<b>%</b> 0	2%	5%	9%	<b>%</b> 0	8	8	<b>%</b> 0	%0	8	ž	<b>3</b> %	*6	ž	š	960	2%	13 <b>%</b>	8
of Services/	Supervision	10%	15%	8	<b>%</b> 0	%0	25%	%	80	%0	86	86	2%	<b>%</b> 0	Š	8	10%	10%	<b>%</b>	285	960	%	10%	8	<b>%</b>	%	2%	š	240	<b>%</b> 0	%	8
Child	Dependency	ž	10%	15%	2%	8	<b>%</b>	ž	%0	15%	8%	8	25%	20%	ž	5% 5%	15%	10%	15%	10%	<b>8</b> 0	%0	15%	10%	2%	<b>8</b> 6	<b>%</b>	10%	15%	10%	8	Š
	Oistrict	-	71	m	4	2	9	,	8	6	10	11	12	13	7	15	16	17	81	ន	20	21	22	23	24	52	97	72	28	53	8	33

Appendix C: Population Change, 2000-2016, continued

-	State of Sta	*	-		3446	į
arm or coon		ALSW.	500	TO.	9107	
mery County	7	57,903	55,651	54,079	S1,445	. 13
andnsville city	Ħ	15,331	14,405	13,769	13,445	. 12X
Patrick County	17	19.416	18.402	18.464	17,923	- 8%
Damillecky	2	48,104	980'97	42,928	41,898	38T ·
Franklin County	2	47.54	51,976	161,38	56,069	13%
Hetsylvania County	77	61,835	62,467	63.448	61.667	*
oanoite city	2	94,941	43,932	796,967	98,646	×
toanoke County	2	15,744	89,245	92,389	94,033	200
a bern city	23	24,747	24,310	24.860	25,549	*
sherst County	*	31.854	31,955	32,319	31,633	118
Afford Counts/City	7	66.897	71.011	74.97	77.960	17
Sampled County	*	53.082	52,785	54.921	54.932	ž
wehture chy	×	65,330	68.773	75,686	10212	X63
(son County	×	14.451	14,828	15,003	14,069	A.
achany County	×	17,213	16,580	16,228	15,395	ž
water to comby	X	65.572	69,549	73,668	74,997	X
eth County	n	5.030	4,891	4,714	4,476	. 11%
Appears County	*	30,548	31,803	33,165	33,231	¥
Here Mate city	n	6,381	25.5	6,627	6.452	Ä
outretton city	<b>1</b> 2	6,261	6,073	5,571	5,518	. 12X
Talg County	2	5,073	\$,139	275	5,15	ž
Sightle and Country	×	22	2,463	306	2,216	¥1.
exington city	×	6,825	9	7,046	7065	K
Action de County	*1	20,195	21,738	1575	22,392	£
taunton city	×	23,896	23,603	23,765	24,363	×
Vaymesboro city	22	19,661	20,533	21,045	21,007	11%
Jarke County	×	12,672	13,710	14,052	14,374	¥.
redenick County	**	99,639	126,93	78,511	<b>84</b> ,421	¥
arrisonbeng city	×	40,437	4,572	49,041	53,078	ž
<b>Granty</b>	*	23,149	23,706	24,027	73,654	ž
schingham Caonty	*	67,977	72,030	76,413	<b>197,6</b> 2	Ķ
benandoah County	2	35,240	39,406	42,053	43,175	Z X
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Siles County	22	16,738	16,963	17,296	18,657	ä
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adferd city	2	15,672	15,995	16,433	17,483	<b>X</b>
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Appendix E: Percentage of Alternative Attorney Configurations by Number of Attorneys, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court, continued 1 storney

	Đ	of Services/					Adult	Protective		
	Dependency	Supervision	Visitation	Juvenile Misc	Delinquency	Traffic	Criminal	Orders	Support	Total
ı	5%	30%	5%	20%	15%	<b>%</b> 0	20%	15%	Š	10%
	%	10%	8	<b>30%</b>	<b>%</b>	%	*	Š	2%	8
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	<b>%</b> 0	ž	%0	86	%0	<b>%</b> 0	<b>3</b> 6	*60	%	<b>%</b> 0
	%S	ž	%	20%	8	15%	2%	10%	ž	8
	30%	45%	8	15%	285	8	10%	<b>%</b>	×	<b>X</b> 5
	15%	35%	360	80	35%	<b>%</b> 0	25%	960	5%	15%
ŀ	%0	285	% %	45%	2%	*6	10%	2%	<b>%</b>	2%
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	%	ž	ž	<b>50</b> %	*	15%	8	<b>%</b> 0	86	Š
	*60	<b>36</b>	96	960	10%	<b>%</b> 0	<b>%</b> 0	5%	260	86
	<b>%</b>	%	15%	%	%0Z	5%	40%	%0	%0	20%
	ž	8	28	Š	5%	Š	10%	*6	Š	ž
	Š	×	%	8	<b>50%</b>	Š	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	%	ž
- 1	8	×	5%	25%	5%	Š	2%	2%	9%	5%
l	360	<b>%</b> 0	2%	<b>%</b>	%0	80	8	<b>%</b> 0	5%	<b>%</b> 0
	8	40%	%	8	%	s X	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>	5%	8
	<b>%</b>	20%	2%	<b>%</b>	20%	8	15%	10%	ž	S,
	25%	%	<b>3</b> 5	70%	<b>%</b>	50%	5%	%0	8	ይ
	%0	<b>%</b> 0	<b>%</b> 0	%	20%	*	<b>%</b> 5	<b>%</b> 0	10%	2%
	<b>%</b>	8	ž	15%	ž	25%	80	Š	<b>75%</b>	Š
	š	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b> 0	% 0%	5% X	10%	%	8	ş	8
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	5%	<b>%</b>	8	35%	25%	*	15%	10%	28 28	10%
	%0	15%	8	8	<b>%</b>	Š	*	<b>%</b>	Š	ş
	<b>7</b> 0	86	%	<b>9</b> %	10%	15%	<b>%</b> 0	%0	9%	8
	%0	960	<b>%</b> 0	% %	<b>6%</b>	8	<b>%</b>	2%	X5	8
	10%	8	10%	20%	15%	8	<b>50%</b>	*	ž	80
	20%	2%	10%	10%	<b>%</b>	8	8	8	8	8
	š	8	5%	980	45%	15%	20%	10%	26	5%

#### Appendix F: Summary of Delphi Adjustments and Rationales

#### Circuit Court

#### Capital Murder

 Pre-Disposition: Add 90 minutes in 100% of cases for pre-set motion dates which gives defense counsel and Commonwealth's Attorney time to get issues resolved. This will assist in better judicial control over the docket and lead to a decrease in the number of continuances and fewer emergency hearings.

## Felony (non-capital) and Related Matters

- Disposition: Add 5 minutes in 5% of cases for a new restitution order mandated by the General Assembly. Judges are required to advise the defendant on the multi-page form and the multiple steps to process.
- Post-Disposition: Add 15 minutes in 15% of cases to review the entire court file for the purpose of adjudicating the probation violation. Reports from the Department of Corrections (DOC) do not provide a history of prior violations and are not detailed enough (due to cuts and fewer resources at DOC). This review will lead to better, more informed results and enhance public safety.
- Post-Disposition: Add 2 minutes in 10% of cases to review orders: sentencing, conviction, show cause. These are typically prepared by Circuit clerks/other staff with typos and errors that necessitate a thorough review for accuracy. Not all courts face this issue. It is more of an issue when staff turnover is high.

## Administrative Law

• Pre-Disposition: Add 15 minutes in 75% of cases to review the administrative record and file in-depth before the hearing is held. Having a better command of the record would help foster a greater respect for the process and the result. Currently, judges often read the file while on the beach and are not prepared to rule at the time of the hearing, taking the matter under advisement to review later. A more thorough review before the hearing could eliminate the need to write an opinion. Further, these matters involve many self-represented litigants, and the additional time would allow for more thorough explanations to these litigants.

#### General Civil Level 1

Pre-Disposition: Add 30 minutes in 75% of cases to increase the use of pre-trial conferences, which will allow for more efficient case processing which will lead to a reduction in continuances, increased trial efficiency (speed up trials), better management of evidence, and result in stipulations. This will also lead to fewer problematic evidentiary hearings and rulings because judges will have more time to think about and consider anticipated evidentiary issues.

#### General District Court

#### Infraction/ Civil Violation

 Pre-Disposition: Add 3 minutes in 1% of cases due to new fines and costs collection requirements mandated by the General Assembly which require more involvement from the judges. Previously handled solely by the court clerks. Judges are now required to be involved in setting, revising, modifying, and approving payment plans, and to include consideration of community service work.

#### Misdemeanor

- Pre-Disposition: Add 5 minutes in 1% of cases due to new restitution form requirements mandated by the General Assembly - Judges are required to ensure the completeness of the forms and additionally determine payment plan.
- Pre-Disposition: Add 5 minutes in 1% of cases due to new fines and costs collection requirements mandated by the General Assembly which require more involvement from the judges. Previously handled solely by the court clerks. Judges are now required to be involved in setting, revising, modifying, and approving payment plans, and to include consideration of community service work.

## Felony

 Pre-Disposition: Add 5 minutes in 1% of cases due to new restitution form requirements mandated by the General Assembly - Judges are required to ensure the completeness of the forms and additionally determine payment plan.  Pre-Disposition: Add 5 minutes in 1% of cases due to new fines and costs collection requirements mandated by the General Assembly which require more involvement from the judges. Previously handled solely by the court clerks. Judges are now required to be involved in setting, revising, modifying, and approving payment plans, and to include consideration of community service work in felonies reduced to misdemeanors.

#### Landlord /Tenant

 Pre-Disposition: Add 5 minutes in 5% of cases to maintain emphasis on procedural due process in order to address the number of self-represented litigants and allow for additional time to explain procedures, orders, and rulings to self-represented litigants.

#### General Civil

 Pre-Disposition: Add 5 minutes in 5% of cases to maintain emphasis on procedural due process in order to address the number of self-represented litigants and allow for additional time to explain procedures, orders, and rulings to self-represented litigants.

## Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

## Child Dependency

- Pre-Disposition: Add 10 minutes in 50% of cases to review case history, foster care plans, and reports to ensure more informed decisions and more efficient use of time on the bench in ongoing cases; to review progress by parents; and for bench swapping in smaller jurisdictions or conflict cases (which requires familiarization with the elements of the case and its history). Dependency cases are becoming increasingly complex due to increased levels of substance abuse (opioid addiction), domestic violence, cultural differences involving immigrant families, and diversion of less complex matters by DSS.
- Disposition: Add 5 minutes in 15% of cases to prepare detailed, written findings and orders at the adjudicatory hearing to memorialize basis for findings of the case.
- Disposition: Add 10 minutes in 40% of cases for more time to hear detailed evidence on plan reviews, not only rely on foster care plan, take testimony regarding progress.

#### **Custody and Visitation**

- Pre-Disposition: Add 5 minutes in 10% of cases for more time for pre-trial conferences and status hearings; interpreters, multiple attorneys, multiple motions, self-represented litigants
- Disposition: Add 10 minutes in 10% of cases to prepare more detailed orders for litigants; better explain rationale, ensure their understanding, to increase procedural satisfaction

#### **Adult Criminal**

 Post-Disposition: Add 5 minutes in 25% of cases because all courts need to hold compliance and accountability hearings in domestic violence cases.

#### **Protective Order**

 Disposition: Add 10 minutes in 7% of cases for more trial time; more time to explain procedures to pro se litigants; occasionally protective orders involve complicated remedies [such as adjudication of custody and visitation as well as exclusive use of marital residence]; non-family abuse protective orders involving minors - time to explain order to juveniles and parents

## TWENTY-FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF VIRGINIA

#### W. CHAPMAN GOODWIN

CHIEF JUDGE
AUGUSTA COUNTY COURTHOUSE
P.O. BOX 689
STAUNTON, VIRGINIA 24402-0689
540-245-5014
FAX 540-245-5296



COUNTIES
ALLEGHANY, AUGUSTA, BATH,
BOTETOURT, CRAIG, HIGHLAND, ROCKBRIDGE

CITIES
BUENA VISTA, CLIFTON FORGE, COVINGTON,
LEXINGTON, STAUNTON AND WAYNESBORO

JUDGE

540-245-5324 Fax 540-245-5296

ANNE F. REED

JUDGE

540-245-5324

Fax 540-245-5296

December 15, 2022

The Honorable Karl R. Hade Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia 100 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Richmond, VA 23219

The Honorable Edward Macon Assistant Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia 100 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Richmond, VA 23219

Re: Additional Judge for the 25<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Supreme Court of Virginia, Augusta County Circuit Court

Dear Mr. Hade and Mr. Macon,

Pursuant to my conversations with Eddie Macon and Norma Gates and Chris Wade, I am writing to ask you to bring a request for the 25<sup>th</sup> Circuit before the Courts Counsel to approve an additional Judge for the 25<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit.

We have ten courts, seven in the western portion of the district, four of which do not have their own Judge, but of course do have a courthouse, and three of which have their own resident Judge. We have three large courts in the eastern end of the circuit, Augusta County, the largest by about two times of all the others, and the City of Staunton with the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest case load in the Circuit and the City of Waynesboro with a smaller but significant case load. The Judges for Waynesboro and Staunton each give two nonconsecutive days per week to assist in Augusta County in addition to my full time five days per week schedule here, but we are still overwhelmed in Augusta County and would be better served by two fulltime Judges.

We are also inundated with jury trials with 100 or so scheduled between January 1, 2023, and July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, meaning virtually every day. We are looking at new trials being set in October and already have longer civil trials set in 2024.

There had been a miscalculation in the number of Judges reported as needed in Augusta County on the most recent Supreme Court reports, which had persuaded me not to seek a new Judge until I received the most recent report, correcting the prior reports. The revised reports significantly changed the three-year average, indicating a need for 1.64 Judges in Augusta rather than the previous report of 1.033. I reviewed the corrected report on Tuesday with Norma Gates and Chris Wade, and they further advise that for 2022 the corrected numbers show a need of 1.77 Judges for our court. I have been advised that the Statistics Department would support adding an additional Judge to sit full time in Augusta as would our Legislators lead by Senator Emmett Hanger and Delegates John Avoli and Chris Runion. I have been advised that the other Legislators are aware of our difficulty and would be supportive as well.

While I understand that the Courts Counsel is not scheduled to meet until spring, I understand that you and Mr. Macon would be willing to assist to the extent you can in getting approval for us at the earliest possible time if the Legislators get legislation introduced.

Thank you for your assistance and I will await your advice. I trust that you will be hearing from Senator Hanger and our Delegates in the near future. I understand that Ms. Gates has already contacted Mr. Macon.

Thank you again for your assistance.

Sincerely.

W. Chapman Goodwin

Chief Judge 25th Judicial Circuit

WCG/kae

CC: The Honorable Joel R. Branscom

The Honorable Paul A. Dryer The Honorable Edward K. Stein

The Honorable Christopher B. Russell

The Honorable Anne F. Reed

## **Current and Announced Judicial Vacancies**

	Cir	cuit	Genera	I District	J&DR	District
	Authorized*		Authorized*		Authorized*	
Circuit/District	Judges	Vacancies	Judges	Vacancies	Judges	Vacancies
1	5	-	4	-	4	-
2	8	2	7	-	6	-
2A			2	-	1	-
3	4	-	2	-	3	1
4	8	1	6	-	5	
5	4	-	3	-	2	-
6	3	-	5		3	-
7	5	-	4	-	4	-
8	3	-	3	1	3	-
9	4	-	3	-	4	-
1-	4	-	3	-	3	-
11	3	-	3	-	3	-
12	6	-	5	1	6	-
13	7	1	6	1	5	-
14	5	-	5	-	5	-
15	11	1	8	1	9	1
16	6	-	4	-	6	1
17	4	-	3	-	2	-
18	3	1	2	-	2	
19	15	1	12	2	8	1
20	5	-	4	1	3	1
21	3	-	2	-	2	-
22	4	1	3	2	4	-
23	5	-	4	-	5	-
24	6	-	3	-	6	-
25	6	-	4	-	5	1
26	8	-	5	-	7	-
27	6		5	-	5	1
28	4	-	3	1	3	-
29	5	1	2	-	3	-
3-	4	-	2	-	3	-
31	7	-	5	-	5	-
State	171	9	132	10	135	7

<sup>\*&</sup>quot;Authorized Judges" refers to the maximum number of judges stated in Virginia Code § 17.1-5-7 (circuit) and § 16.1-69.6:1 (district) as of July 1, 2023.

Source: People Soft, 2023
Prepared by: OES, 12/1/2023